

NEWS



ECCC Sophomore Class Officers

These students were recently selected officers of the sophomore class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) president Jessica Eakes of Philadelphia, vice president Melonie Moore and secretary Heather Brantley, both of Neshoba Central, and treasurer Becky Herrington of Louisville.

SPEAKERS FOR THE 2002 SPRING SEMESTER

Sponsored by the Student Health Center

February 5, 2002

Blood Drive
8:00 -3:30 p.m.
United Blood Services
Blood Mobile will be in the Mall Area

February 7, 2002

"Sexually Transmitted Diseases"
10:40-11:20 a.m.
April York with the State Department of Health
Vickers Fine Arts

February 21, 2002

"Life is a Journey"
10:40-11:20 a.m.
Dr. Rex Alman
Former Director of Weems Mental Health
Vickers Fine Arts

March 21, 2002

"Domestic Violence"
10:40-11:20 a.m.
Alexia Rushing
Care Lodge in Meridian
Vickers Fine Arts

April 22, 2002

Blood Drive
8:00-3:30 p.m.
United Blood Services
Blood Mobile will be in the Mall Area

CAMPUS DAILY DOINGS

At the conclusion of last semester the Ac'cents presented a concert, and their performance was clean, crisp, and captivating. A tip of the hat and a putting of the hands together for instructor Vicki Blaylock and Caleb Cook, Jennifer Cuchens, Jessica Eakes, Leticia Horn, Alexia Norris, Jeff Pates,

Ricardo Robinson, Matthew Smith, Tori Tejerina, Shanna Travis, Damein Wash, and Carl Wilson. The dance numbers staged by Ricardo Robinson were the quitescence of quality. Some folks get it right, and these 12 singers and dancers and their director got it right. Yes Sir! All the way from the melodic "When I Fall in Love" to the captivating rhythms of "Too Hot to Samba," this group filled the evening with song and dance.

According to a report in the Choctaw Community News, more Choctaw students who are taking advantage of the Tribal Scholarship Program are enrolled at East Central than all other Mississippi colleges combined. Of the 247 Choctaw students now enrolled in colleges in Mississippi, 147 are attending East Central.

Among those recognized at the January 22 induction ceremonies for Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa were two East Central graduates, Vickie Adcock Sinclair and Glen Hansford, who are now employed by Phi Theta Kappa and hold positions at the international office of the organization.

The University Press of Mississippi has scheduled the first signing of Prof. Tony Kinton's latest book Fishing Mississippi. The event is scheduled for 3:30, April 6, at Lemura Books in Jackson. There will be other signings across the state throughout the spring and summer.

Recently discovered: a book of epitaphs in the East Central Library. Among those epitaphs included in the book was this one from a tombstone of a pub owner in Falkirk, England. The epitaph reads: "This one's on me."

Lady Warrior Nikki LaCour recently scored 24 points in a game against Jones Junior College. To her we say, "You go girl!"

Whatever happened to the following East Central events? FRESHMAN DAY (All the freshmen were required by the sophomores to

wear their clothes wrong side out, go barefoot, sit on the floor, eat without utensils, and attend a dance at the end of the day.) FASHION SHOWS (This was a spring event when a select group of girls on campus modeled clothes from clothing stores in the area.) TALENT CONTESTS (Student groups got together and competed for prizes in an annual talent show.) THE MAY DAY CELEBRATION (A May Queen and her court were chosen and the queen was crowned after entertainment was presented for her pleasure.) WEEKLY ASSEMBLIES (An assembly was held for the entire college in Huff Auditorium each Tuesday morning.) These events and many more have passed into the pages of EC history.

Congratulations to the 2001 East Central football team members who received scholarships at midyear and have transferred to four-year colleges and universities. They are Jerry Spencer, Chris Hooper, John Bibb, Marco Cole, Darrius Thames, Frederick Knighten, John Gusman and Melvin Cotton. All these transfers were outstanding players on Coach Underwood's teams for the past two years.

The display case in the lobby of the East Central library now has an exhibit of books written by East Central graduates. The thirteen books and authors are: Beyond Childhood by Smith Wood; Hill Country Warriors by Johnnie Neil Smith; A Solitary South Wind by Hedy Williams; Fabulous Provinces by Dan Young; Blue Orleans by Jo Agnew LeCoeur; Reflections by Tony Kinton; His Hand in Mine by Jack Lamar Neese; So Late This Year by Fred Ray Blocker; The Crawdad Hole by Ray Babston; A Newton County Pictorial History by Melvin Tingle; Of Talking Tomatoes by Jan Risher; Nor Far from the Zinnias by Rachel Darby Evans and Betty Crosby Seward; and Mathematics for Children by Linda Smith-Baron.

Interesting Fact: Since the founding of the college in 1928 the ECCC Players have performed 63 full-length plays, 49 one-act plays, and 35 musicals. These 147 theatrical presentations have been performed on the stage in the old gymnasium, in the now demolished auditorium on the third floor of the original classroom building, in Huff Auditorium and on the stage of the present Fine Arts Building.

"Footloose" is the name of the musical which the EC Players will present on April 11-13. The musical concerns a town in which there is a minister who violently objects to young people dancing. Here a bit of irony enters the picture. Dinah Howell who has one of the leads in the musical is the daughter of a minister. Following in the footsteps of her brothers, Dinah will be the third member of her family to perform in East Central musicals. This musical should be quite good with such seasoned performers as Chris Carson, Ricardo Robinson, Caleb Cook, Megan Morrison, Shanna Travis, Adam Mann, Ura Seymer, Paul Mason, and Brad Sutphin. The entire cast includes 29 actors, signers and dancers.

RAYMOND: Melanie Anne Boyd.
RIDGELAND: Juarez Brown Emerson.
ROSE HILL: Kristin N. Harris.
SEBASTOPOL: Alexander W. Shepard.
TROY, ALABAMA: James K. Stephens.

UNION: Jodie Barker, Jerry E. Barrett, Janet F. Belk, Deborah Ruddick Blais, Travis Boone, Kevin Germany, Tommy Lee Hollingsworth, Sandy Keene, Haley Cheatham Knight, Heather Rosanna Lewis, Billy A. McBeath, Lindsay S. McDaniel, Jason Cedric Medford, Billy Norton, Bobby R. Renfrow, Rachel Wilkerson Richardson, Jeri Patrice Russell, Nicholas Smith, Kenneth Wesley Spears, Kelly Smith Sperandeo, Timothy Warren and Belinda Pierce Winstead.

VICKSBURG: Kiel W. May.

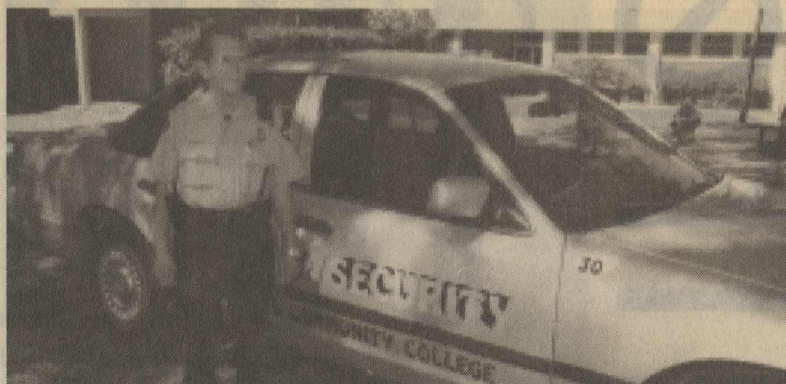
WALNUT GROVE: James E. Denson, Melissa A. Grayson, Ardria Harris. Yancy Wilson Thrash, Joshua S. Turner and Antonia Odom Ward.

"Violence in the Media"

by Jessica Russell

Society has often used scapegoats for every problem under the sun since the beginning of time to explain things we didn't understand. Drought and floods were natural phenomenon it was because the Gods were upset with the village. Our modern day society is no different, only now we use things as trivial as music and video games to explain why there is so much violence in our school system.

The fact of the matter is that music (i.e. rock 'n' roll) has always been targeted as the root of all evil. Elvis Presely was obscene and could only be shown from the waist up on "The Ed Sullivan Show." The Beatles arrived from England and supposedly spoke to Charles Manson through the song "Helter Skelter." Of course now both Elvis and The Beatles are known as two of the greatest musical influences in the world.



ECCC Gets New Security Vehicle

Security officer Willie Latham stands next to a new security vehicle recently donated to East Central Community College by alumnus Jimmy Rea, owner of Mid-South Auto Auction in Jackson. Rea, a Philadelphia native and former standout athlete, was inducted into the College's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2000.



ECCC Freshman Class Officers

These students were recently selected officers of the freshman class at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pictured are (from left) president April McAdory of Neshoba Central, vice president Charles Wood of Louisville, treasurer Megan Logan of Newton and secretary Victoria Daniels of Neshoba Central.



Honored for Service

Linda Pierce (right) of Newton recently resigned as secretary to the Director of Admissions, Records and Research at East Central Community College in Decatur. Pierce, who served in the position since 1984, is shown receiving a gift of appreciation from Donna Luke, Admissions director. A reception was also held in her honor.



Learning Skills Center

Need a Little Extra Help?
Come to the Learning Skills Center!
Free Tutoring Available!

NEWTOWN HALL, ROOM 112
Monday - Tuesday - 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday - Thursday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For More Information - Contact Mary Hanson - 635-2111 ext. 329

East Central Community College
P.O. Box 129 Decatur, MS 39327 • 1-877-GO-2-ECCC

East Central Community College DIAMOND WARRIOR BASEBALL 2002 Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time
February 12	Tuesday	West Alabama (JV)	Livingston	(S)2:00 P.M.
14	Thursday	Shelton State	UWA	(S)5:00 P.M.
18	Monday	East Mississippi	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
19	Tuesday	West Alabama (JV)	Decatur	(S)1:00 P.M.
22	Friday	Rush Classic - Jones	Meridian	(S)12:00 P.M.
23	Saturday	Rush Classic - EMCC	Meridian	(S)12:00 P.M.
24	Sunday	Rush Classic - MCC	Meridian	(S)3:00 P.M.
27	Wednesday	Itawamba	Decatur	3:00 P.M.
March 2	Saturday	Shelton State	Decatur	(S)1:00 P.M.
4	Monday	MS College (JV)	Clinton	3:00 P.M.
8	Friday	Gulf Coast	Perkinsville	4:00 P.M.
16	Saturday	Pearl River	Poplarville	1:00 P.M.
20	Wednesday	Co-Lin	Decatur	2:00 P.M.
23	Saturday	Southwest	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
27	Wednesday	Birmingham	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
29	Friday	Hinds	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
April 2	Tuesday	Jones	Ellisville	4:00 P.M.
6	Saturday	Gulf Coast	Decatur	1:00 P.M.
9	Tuesday	Pearl River	Decatur	2:00 P.M.
10	Wednesday	MCC	Decatur	(S)1:00 P.M.
13	Saturday	Co-Lin	Wesson	1:00 P.M.
15	Monday	Judges Cup - EMCC	Scobba	(S)6:30 P.M.
17	Wednesday	Southwest	Summit	4:00 P.M.
19	Friday	Itawamba	Fulton	4:00 P.M.
23	Tuesday	Hinds	Raymond	4:00 P.M.
27	Saturday	Jones	Decatur	1:00 P.M.

President - Dr. Phil A. Sutphin
Athletic Director - Terry Underwood
Assistant - Patrick Robey
Managers - C. Joe Sullivan, Brian Newell, Jason Eaves

All Games Are Double-headers Unless Noted As Single.

East Central Community College LADY WARRIOR SOFTBALL 2002 Schedule

Date	Day	Opponent	Location	Time
February 19	Tuesday	East Mississippi	Decatur	1:30 p.m.
21	Thursday	Holmes	Goodman	3:00 p.m.
26	Tuesday	Meridian	Meridian	3:00 p.m.
28	Thursday	Mississippi Delta	Moorhead	1:30 p.m.
March 5	Tuesday	Hinds	Decatur	1:30 p.m.
7	Thursday	Mississippi Delta	Decatur	1:30 p.m.
19	Tuesday	Southwest	Decatur	1:30 p.m.
23	Saturday	Co-Lin	Decatur	11:00 a.m.
25	Monday	Pearl River	Poplarville	1:30 p.m.
27	Wednesday	Gulf Coast	Decatur	1:30 p.m.
April 2	Tuesday	Jones	Decatur	2:30 p.m.
6	Saturday	Hinds	Raymond	11:00 a.m.
9	Tuesday	Meridian	Decatur	2:30 p.m.
13	Saturday	Southwest	Summit	11:00 a.m.
16	Tuesday	Co-Lin	Wesson	2:30 p.m.
20	Saturday	Pearl River	Decatur	11:00 a.m.
23	Tuesday	Gulf Coast	Perkinsville	2:30 p.m.
27	Saturday	Jones	Ellisville	11:00 a.m.

May 3-4 Friday-Saturday - State Tour.

President - Dr. Phil A. Sutphin
Athletic Director - Terry Underwood
Head Coach - Mike Anderson

All Games Are Double-headers Unless Otherwise Noted

Honor Roll *Continued from page 1*

Jonathan Richard McMillan, Deven Patel, Alexander Porter, Robert C. Priscock, Shamalisha Riddle, James T. Rogers, Brandon Simpson, Rachel G. Smith, Starlett N. Smith, Cory F. Stanton, Candance J. Stennis, Joseph Stokes, Mary Combs Stoats, Kristin Rainey Swindle, Amanda D. Thompson, Nathan Curtis Trosper and Matthew G. Warren.

LUDLOW: Kendrick L. Calhoun and Lamarro C. Mapp.
MADDEN: Kristol Brooke Bryan and Joel C. Wall.
MADISON: Matthew T. Heard.

MERIDIAN: Angela Goodwin Betts, Eric M. Bland, Brian Joseph Buckley, Sherry Wright Clark, Larrisha S. Daugherty, Brandy Michelle Harris, Stephen T. Harrison, Linda Renae Irby, Heather Johnson, Latoria T. Lard, Leigh Ann Morrow and Andrew Louis Polizzi.

MORTON: Tammy Faye Faulkner, Rachel Leanne George, Stacie L. Gordon, Amanda R. Layton, Shawna L. Massey, Adam C. McCurdy, Haley L. Waggoner, Amanda L. Winters and Ruth Phillipson Wood.

NEW ALBANY: Braden S. Land.

NEWTON: Marcus Bobbitt, Stacey L. Davis, Amanda Nickole Dean, Shalytha Payne Evans, Alyssa T. Ford, Jason E. Frith, Jonathan Frith, Angela Ellen Holmes, Kyle Prentiss James, Megan E. Logan, Joaquin A. Loper, Moechea C. Manuel, Justin McKinion, Joshua M. Pugh, Felisha Meshea Temple, Morgan J. Walker and Carl Lee Wilson.

NORTHPORT, ALABAMA: Kenneth Aaron Hurt.

NOXAPATER: Wendy Dawn Barnett, Martha Boswell, Kimberly M. Cook, James M. Edwards, Ashley L. Holdiness, Tishquia D. Hudson, Benjamin D. Kirk and Brian D. Triplett.

PEARL: Victoria LeNore Melton.

PELAHATCHIE: William Andrew Moore and Jeff D. Stuart.

PHILADELPHIA: Kristian Burton Abel, Robin S. Allen, Jamie Bailey, Jennifer M. Bane, Jamie Hefflin Bassett, Josh Baumunk, Miranda C. Baumunk, Brandi Anthony Brewer, Hailey E. Brewer, Johnnie Cary Brown, Mandy R. Calecas, Colt Stuart Callahan, Rachel E. Chapman, Lindsey Cheatham, Eva Nelson Clay, Jessica Clemons, Ella Mae King Crocker, Kelly D. Cumberland, Sarah N. Duncan, Christy LeAnn Fedrick, Casey Nicole Files, Jonathan Griffin, Krystal Beckham Griffin, Leticia Horn, Damon Hudson, Heather Rushing Kennedy, Kevin Michael Langley, Natasha Hardy Lewis, Jeremy W. McNair, Stephanie Fryery Mize, Barry C. Nowell, Nina Roach, Chasity Stokes Robertson, Jonah C. Romans, Robert D. Routh, Jessica R. Sistrunk, Bryant Steele, Kyle William Stokes, Melba Janece "Dee" Sullivan, Melissa Moore Tindol, Jessica Nicole Tullios, Joseph Byron Tullios, Jennifer B. Walker, Kelly B. Walker, Lindsey Williams and Crawford Willis.

PRESTON: Derick Jerome Donald, Bradley S. Luke and Kyle A. Miller.

PULASKI: Brandie Black, Stacy L. Neese and Brandy C. Richardson.

QUITMAN: Pamela Michelle Kelly.

ECCC! With You In Mind!

difference between reality and fiction.

ASNEC NEWS

By: Pam Kelly

ASNEC would like to welcome our returning students as well as our LPN Upgrades. We are glad you have joined us. This semester is going to be busy, the board has met and are scheduling speakers from all over the area to join us in our meetings for February, March and April. The speakers will speak on stress management to recruiting our upcoming graduates to selling us stethoscopes. We are also joining with area hospices and home health cares for our spring community project.

Our final count on our outstanding Disaster Relief Fund was \$3352.74. A big thank you goes out to everyone that helped us raise the money to send in time of need for our Country. This was our biggest project last semester and we are very proud of what our organization did for the victims and families of the tragedy.

For our Thanksgiving project, we donated can foods to South Harbor in Meridian, MS. This project was a great turn out and we appreciate everyone that helped.

Christmas is a time to celebrate the joys of the season and helping those in need. We decided to help two families in need for the holidays. One family was a young single mother with two children who had a car accident and would be out of work for awhile, we did our best to give her children Christmas. The other fam-

ily was a young man who had an accident at work and needed antibiotics for 6 months that cost a bundle of money. We had a road block in Union to raise money for these families as well as money boxes around Decatur. Each family received about \$265.00 each. Again thanks to all that made this project succeed. A special thanks to Travis Boone for getting the roadblock set up. The rest of our disaster t-shirts were donated to Care Lodge in Meridian just in time for Christmas.

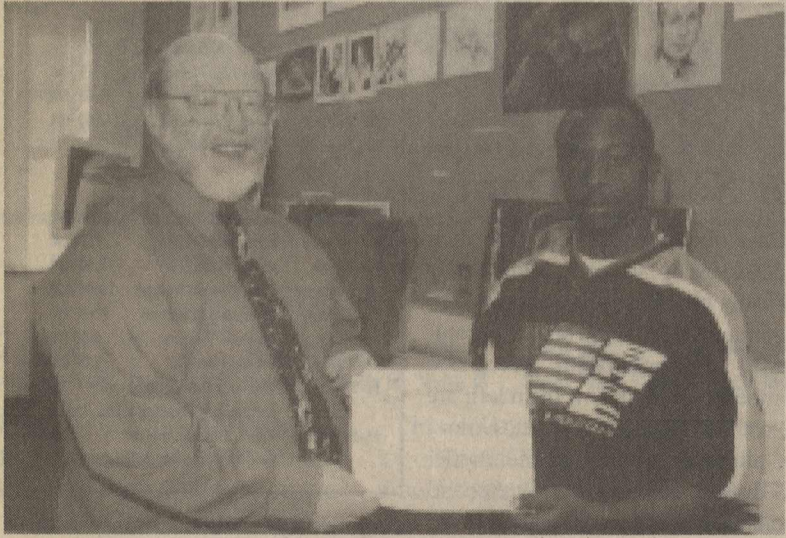
This semester is going to be just as exciting as our Fall semester and we are looking forward to getting the year started.

SBA Plans for Spring Semester

By: Heather Brantley
East Central's 2001-2002 Student Body Association plans student activities for the spring semester. The student government has great ideas for the Warrior students. On February 14th, the SBA will host "Be Our Guest" night for all area high school students at EC's basketball game.

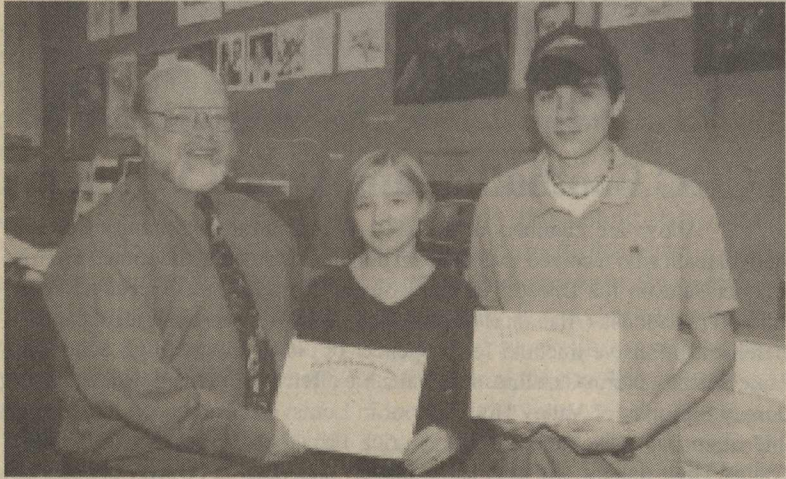
Preparations for the annual spring dance are underway. The spring dance is tentatively scheduled for March 6, 2002. Tee shirts will be on sale. Also planned for the 2002 spring semester is the annual Spring Spree. This event is tentatively set for the week of April 22nd. Sophomore class vice president Melonie Moore says, "I hope everyone is excited about the upcoming events and will gladly participate and have fun!"

ARTS



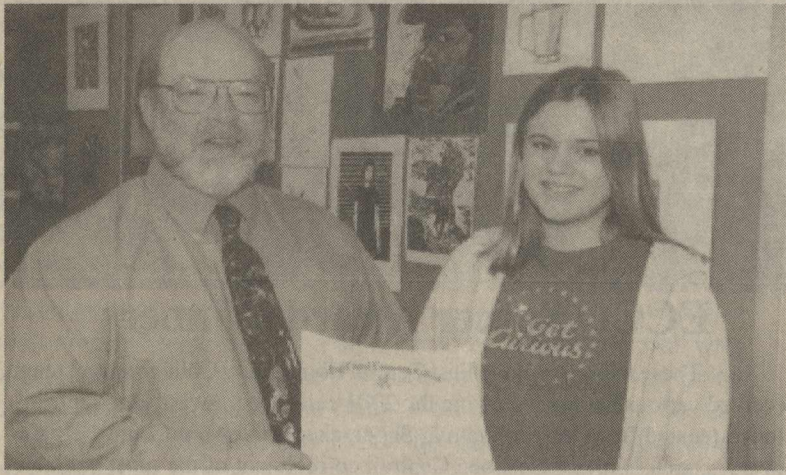
Keyes Presented ECCC Art Scholarship

East Central Community College art instructor Bruce Guraedy (left) is shown presenting an art service scholarship to freshman Xavier Keyes of Raleigh. The scholarship, which covers one-half the cost of tuition, is presented to students who provide assistance for dinner theater and musical productions, art shows, and for serving as assistants in the art and ceramic labs. Four art service scholarships are presented each spring. For more information regarding the ECCC Art Department, contact Guraedy, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229.



Receive ECCC Art Scholarships

East Central Community College art instructor Bruce Guraedy (left) recently awarded scholarships to freshmen Victoria Daniels (center) and William Cherry, both of Philadelphia and Neshoba Central graduates. Daniels received an academic art scholarship, which provides full tuition and is presented to two art majors with the highest grade point averages following their first semester of coursework. Cherry was presented an art service scholarship, which covers one-half the cost of tuition. Art service scholarships are presented to students who provide assistance for dinner theater and musical productions, art shows, and for serving as assistants in the art and ceramic labs. Four art service scholarships are presented each spring. For more information regarding the ECCC Art Department, contact Guraedy, Phone 625-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229.



SPORTS

Several ECCC Warriors Receive Scholarships With Four-Year Colleges

Several members of the 2001 East Central Community College football team received scholarships at mid-year and have transferred to their respective four-year colleges and universities, announced Warrior head coach Terry Underwood.

Signees include the following:
Jerry Spencer, a 6' 4," 300-pound offensive lineman who now attends the University of Louisville. Spencer, a product of North Moore High School in Eagle Springs, North Carolina, was named a third team J. C. Grid-Wire All-American, first team All-Region 23, All-State and was selected the South Division's most valuable offensive lineman. He was chosen an All-Star and helped lead the South to a 16-14 win over the North All-Stars in the annual matchup held at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. In addition, Spencer was selected the Warriors' most valuable offensive lineman. Spencer also played a key role in East Central completing the 2001 campaign as the state's second-best rushing offense, averaging 211.4 yards per contest.

Chris Hooper, a 6'4," 215-pound free safety who signed with Central Missouri State University. Hooper, a product of North Springs High School in Atlanta, Georgia, was chosen honorable mention All-State. He was credited with 42 tackles, 14 assists and two interceptions during the 2001 season.

John Bibb, a 6', 220-pound linebacker now with Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva, Oklahoma. Bibb, a product of Tuscaloosa (Alabama) Central High School, was selected an honorable mention J.C. Grid-Wire All-American and first team All-State. He was also chosen the Warriors' defensive team captain. Bibb had 46 tackles, 22 assists, two quarterback sacks and two fumble recoveries during the 2001 season.

Marco Cole, a 6'1," 180-pound defensive back who signed with Harding (Arkansas) University. Cole, a product of Neshoba Central High School, was selected honorable mention All-State. Cole completed the 2001 campaign with 26 tackles, 12 assists, three interceptions and two fumble recoveries.



ECCC Chorale Presents Concert

Above are members of the East Central Community College Chorale who are shown prior to their annual fall concert held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the Decatur campus. First row, from left, are Ross Price of Union, director; Michelle Simmons, Carthage; Leticia Horn, Philadelphia; Glenda Brown, Union; Stacey York, Decatur; Rebecca Kelly, Lake; Megan Logan, Newton; Shanna Travis, Crystal Springs; Krystal Moore, Philadelphia; Rebecca Germany, Union; Lana Rogers, Carthage; Heather Chessman, Raymond; and Leesa Wilkinson of Hickory, accompanist. Second row, from left, are Amanda Clanton, Lawrence; Tam Graham and Jennifer Bane, both of Philadelphia; Jennifer Savell, Lake; Lisa Chamblee, Carthage; Natalie Tanksley, Sebastopol; Dinah Howell, Decatur; Sarah Cole, Newton; Rachel

George and Rheannan Crane, both of Morton; Kalenda Towner, Meridian; Renee Irby, Clarkdale; and Kelly Cauthen, Raymond. Third row, from left, are Kathy Jones, Philadelphia; Alyssa Ford, Newton; Jeff Pates, Lawrence; Josh Burton and Jacob Pierce, both of Decatur; Terrance Ross, Bay Springs; Damein Wash, Hickory; Ricardo Robinson, Decatur; Carl Wilson, Newton; Josh Hall, Morton; Deidre Greer, Carthage; Lakeisha Burnside, Philadelphia; and Alvia Lee, Pelahatchie. Fourth row, from left, are Chris Carson, Decatur; Casey Paige, Newton; Andy Murphy, Meridian; Brad Sutphin, Decatur; Joshua Black, Philadelphia; Matthew Smith, Decatur; Caleb Cook, Hickory; Jeremy Stevens, Decatur; Shondrick Hampton, Louisville; and Keil May, Vicksburg.



ECCC Alumnus Performs On Campus

East Central Community College alumnus Chas Evans and other members of the Hub City Guitar Trio presented a concert recently in the Vickers Fine Arts Center on the ECCC campus in Decatur. Group members include (from left) Jay Erp, Sarah Clay and Evans, a former resident of Chunky. All three are students at the University of Southern Mississippi. Evans is pursuing a master's degree in music performance while serving as a graduate assistant to guitar instructor Giovanni Dechiaro.



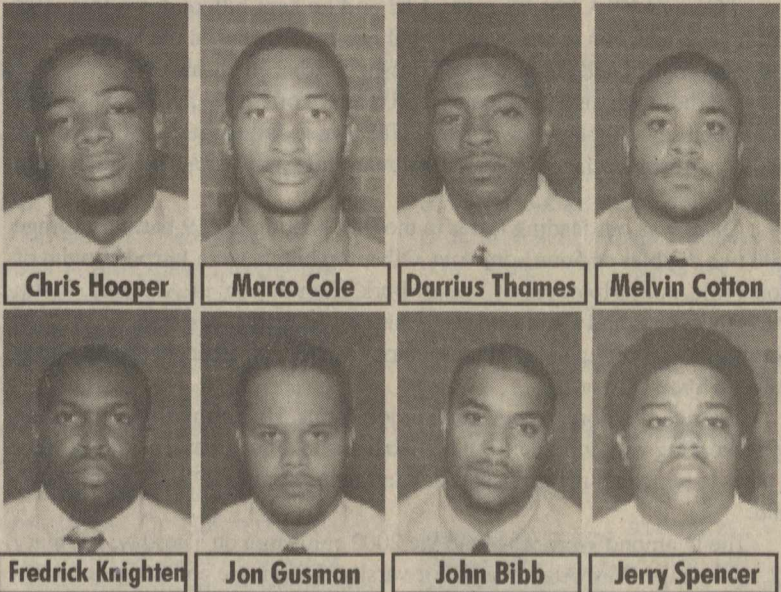
EC Elite Accompanies Drum Line on Tour

By: Kathy Jones

The EC Elite, also known as the East Central Winter Guard, completed its first annual tour in early December of 2001. For the first time ever, the guard accompanied the EC Drum Line who is under the instruction of Mr. Jared Brownlee. Throughout the tour, the guard visited high schools of the East Central five county district. High schools included were: Neshoba Central, Newton County, Carthage, Louisville, and Union. The guard performed a choreographed routine to the music of King Conga, as the drum line performed various selections written by Mr. Brownlee. Members of the EC Elite are: Allison Latham, Kathy Jones (co-captain), Alyssa Ford, Jana Adkins, Dana Massey, Renee Irby, Mandy Calecas, Ricardo Robinson (chooreographer/captain), Jessica Brooks, and Kristen Gardner. The annual tour is used to help recruit potential members of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band. Many students express an interest in becoming members of the band. Through touring, the students get the opportunity to see the guard and drum line for themselves, increasing their interest in the college.

Thompson Receives ECCC Art Scholarship

Amanda Thompson of Louisville was recently presented an academic art scholarship to continue her education at East Central Community College in Decatur. Thompson, a freshman art major, is shown receiving the award from art instructor Bruce Guraedy. The scholarship covers the cost of tuition and is presented to two art majors with the highest grade point averages following the their first semester of coursework. For more information regarding the ECCC Art Department, contact Guraedy, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229.



Darius "Buck" Thames, a 5'11," 175-pound defensive back who also signed at Harding University. Thames, a product of Philadelphia High School, was chosen honorable mention All-State. He was credited with 27 tackles, eight assists, five interceptions and one fumble recovery during the 2001 season.

Fredrick Knighten, a 6' 2," 240-pound tight end who is now attending the University of Tennessee at Martin. Knighten, a product of Meridian High School, was an honorable mention All-State selection. A two-year starter, Knighten was also instrumental in the Warriors' success on offense.

Jon Gusman, a 6'4," 255-pound defensive lineman who has transferred to Illinois State University. Gusman, a product of Newton County High School, was named honorable mention All-State. He had 24 tackles and 20 assists during 2001.

Melvin Cotton, a 6', 220-pound linebacker who signed with the University of West Alabama. Cotton, a product of Holt (Alabama) High School, was named honorable mention All-State. He was credited with 42 tackles, 21 assists, two interceptions, one fumble recovery and one quarterback sack.

Coach Underwood, who led the Warriors to a 6-4 record and a berth in the state playoffs, said the signees "meant a lot to our program and I wish for them the very best as they continue their education and athletic careers."

Underwood said he anticipates the signing of additional former team members during the 2001 spring term.



ECCC All-Stars

East Central Community College football players who were named on the MACJC South All-Star squad were (from left) running back Patrick Prince of Tuscaloosa (Alabama) County High School, quarterback Brian Zhydnewski of Choctawhatchee High School, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida; wide receiver Dontay Spillman of Valley High School in Louisville, Kentucky; defensive lineman Keith Curry of Newton County High School; and offensive lineman Jerry Spencer, a product of North Moore High School in Eagle Springs, North Carolina. Spillman displays the trophy he received for being named the South's most valuable player. The South All-Stars defeated the North squad 16-14. The annual matchup is held at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville. The ECCC All-Stars were recognized at the annual Warrior Football Awards Banquet held recently on the Decatur campus.



Chaney Named Academic All-American

East Central Community College defensive back Josh Chaney

of Little Rock has been named to the J.C. Grid-Wire 2001 Scholar/Athlete Junior College All-American Team. Chaney, a product of Newton County High School, is shown receiving the award from Warrior head football coach Terry Underwood. Chaney, who has a 3.9 grade point average, earlier received the team's academic award and was co-recipient of the Warrior Award. He was also selected honorable mention All-State and helped lead EC to a 6-4 mark and a berth in the state playoffs. Chaney, a sophomore liberal arts major, is the son of Ricky and Brenda Chaney of Little Rock.



ECCC Diamond Warriors

Above are members of the East Central Community College baseball team for the 2002 campaign. Kneeling from left are manager Jason Eaves, Nanih Waiya; shortstop/outfielder Dee Hornesburger and catcher Will Baskin, both of Noxapater; pitcher/outfielder Brian Spillers, Mangham (La.) High School; shortstop/second baseman Jake Nester, Lake; second baseman/outfielder Daniel Russell, Newton County Academy; outfielder/pitcher Jarrod Vaughn, Louisville; and manager Charleene Foreman, Newton County. Seated from left are manager Brian Newell, Clarkdale; outfielder Paul Brown, Forest; pitcher Jason Wooten, Lake; third baseman/second baseman Josh Chaney, Newton County; pitcher/second baseman Corey Blackwell, Nanih Waiya; second baseman Jason Massey, Lake; pitcher/third baseman Aaron Gisler, Springdale (AR) High School; and infielder Jamie Ellington, Kosciusko. Third row, from left, are Patrick Robey, assistant coach; pitcher Nick Singleton, Robert E. Lee (Ala.) High School; first baseman/outfielder Tyler Rogers, Louisville; catcher Mike Kulbeth, Westminster (La.) Academy; catcher Joey Holcomb, Locust Fork (Ala.) High School; pitcher Michael Holifield, Newton County; outfielder Timothy Fieber, Neshoba Central; outfielder Lewis Bradford, Scott Central; and Jake Yarborough, head coach. Top row, from left, are outfielder/pitcher William Mars, Philadelphia; third baseman/pitcher Justin Darby, Union; pitcher Alex Shepard, Sebastopol; pitcher/outfielder/first baseman Chad Loper, Chatom (Ala.) High School; first baseman/pitcher Adam McCurdy, Morton; pitcher Chris Comans, Newton; and pitcher Corey Amis, Newton County.

A 'Faster' Lady Diamond Warrior Squad Begins Season February 19

Fans attending East Central Community College fast-pitch softball games this spring will witness a much-faster squad compared to year's past, which is one of the reasons head coach Mike Anderson is "cautiously optimistic" about the success of his 2002 squad.

"We have more team speed - offensively and defensively- which will allow us to be a lot more aggressive not only on the base paths but in fielding the ball as well. We should also be strong at the pitching position, and with the return of our top hitters, this season could be very successful for us," said Anderson, who begins his tenth year leading the women's softball program and second season of fast-pitch competition.

The Lady Warriors posted a 20-20 mark in 2001, which was quite an accomplishment considering the team's lack of fast-pitch experience.

"Last year we played the season with just 10 girls, and only four had ever played fast-pitch. Seven of the 10 were freshmen. My goal at the beginning of the season was to win at least 20 games, and that's what we accomplished. Even though we only have three returnees on this year's squad, I feel confident we will have a good year," Anderson said.

Returning sophomores are pitcher/first baseman Emily Casey, catcher Sommer Averett, both of Union, and infielder Bernice Hannah of Louisville. Also on the squad is sophomore inflielder Jackie Avant, a transfer from Meridian Community College, who is a former standout at Newton County High School.

Casey was credited with 19 of the 20 wins and was one of the team's top hitters and RBI-producers. She batted third in the lineup and followed Averett, who scored most of the runs.

Expected to share pitching duties with Casey are freshmen Jennie Battle of Philadelphia and April Bufkin of Newton County High School, who are also outfielders. Anderson said the additional hurlers provide a much-needed boost for the defense.

"Having two other pitchers means Casey does not have the carry the load every game like she did last year. We will also have a better defense behind her, meaning she should be throwing fewer pitches each game," Anderson said.

In addition to Battle and Bufkin, other freshmen are infielders Faith Whitfield of Louisville, Paige Posey of Leake Academy, Amanda Wilcher of Edinburg; outfielders Brandi Upton of Newton County Academy, Paige Sullivan of Nanih Waiya, Krystal Moore and Ronda Munn, both of Philadelphia, and Frances McDougale of Union; and catcher Anna Pearl of Pearl.

Student assistants are Jessie Warren of Scott Central, Luke Horton of Newton County and Casey Page of Newton. Brodie Perkins of Carthage serves as trainer.

The Lady Diamond Warriors begin season action at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 9 against visiting East Mississippi Community College.

ECCC Diamond Warriors Begin New Era February 12

For the first time since the 1988 campaign, the East Central Community College baseball team will take the field with a new leader at the helm.

Former assistant Jake Yarborough now leads the Diamond Warriors, who were guided by Jamie Clark for 14 seasons until a brain tumor cut short his life last summer. Clark, who died at age 49, amassed a 365-302-1 record at East Central. His 1998 Diamond Warriors captured the team's first state title. Although Coach Clark is no longer a part of ECCC baseball, his presence will be felt through Yarborough's leadership.

"We obviously miss Coach Clark very much. Although he is not here, we plan to continue what he established for the East Central baseball program, meaning that we basically do things the old-fashioned way. We still consider ourselves 'blue-collar' workers; nothing is given to us and we have to work hard for what we get. I often remind players how important it is to out-work our opponents. So we try to instill the same work ethic as Coach Clark, and will continue to follow his style of coaching, which obviously proved to be successful," Yarborough said.

Coach Clark also expected team members to do well in academics. Yarborough said he intends to continue Clark's expectations for the team on the field and also in the classroom.

"Our guys are expected to go to class and to present themselves well as student-athletes and not just baseball players. Coach Clark stressed the importance of making good grades and made it a point to recognized players who achieved at least a 3.0 grade point average. Speaking of grades, I'm especially pleased that the team has an overall 2.9 GPA, which is outstanding. I know Coach Clark would also be pleased," Yarborough said.

In recognition of Clark's service to East Central, the College plans to dedicate "Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium" during a ceremony beginning at 1 p.m. Monday, February 18, prior to the Diamond Warriors' first home game of the 2002 campaign. Clark's jersey will also be retired during the special program. His widow, Audrey Clark, is expected to throw out the first pitch to officially start East Central's double-header with East Mississippi Community College.

The Diamond Warriors, who finished 19-27 in 2001, should be much improved this season, according to their new head coach.

"We had a great fall and practice has gone well. Players are a lot stronger this year, as indicated by various strength and conditioning tests. We are also a lot quicker. This team has more depth than last year; we are two-deep

in every position. I think we'll provide more run support for our pitching staff, something we did not do last year. Overall, we should see a big improvement from 2001. This team is hungry to win; I can see it in their eyes," Yarborough said.

Among top returnees this season include outfielder Lewis Bradford, a product of Scott Central High School; inflielder Josh Chaney of Newton County High School; and shortstop/outfielder Dee Hornesburger of Noxapater.

Bradford batted .289, hit eight home runs, six doubles and collected 27 RBIs. His coach expects another solid performance.

"Lewis continues to hit the ball well and I look for him to have another big year," Yarborough said.

Chaney posted a .289 batting average with four triples, four doubles and 13 RBIs. He also walked 13 times.

"Josh is an outstanding defensive player. He can play shortstop, second base or the outfield. He's the type guy you want to play in the middle of the defense. Last year his fielded percentage at third base and behind the plate was .936, which is very high. We're anticipating another solid defensive performance from Josh, who will start at either third base or second base," Yarborough said.

Hornesburger hit .233 with nine doubles. He collected 12 RBIs and drew 11 walks.

"Dee had a .951 fielding percentage last year at second base. He will also be positioned in the middle of the defense this year. He can also play outfield," Yarborough said.

Adam McCurdy of Morton is also listed as a top returnee.

"Adam is mainly a defensive player but we also expect him to produce at the plate. He'll see some time at first base," Yarborough said.

Regarding the pitching staff, Yarborough said he anticipates another successful year from Jason Wooten of Lake, the team's top returning hurler.

Wooten had a 2.44 ERA and posted a 4-3 record with one save. His opponents' batting average was .205.

"Jason is mainly a finesse pitcher. He's gained a little velocity this year, and he can change speeds to get the batter out," Yarborough noted.

Another returning ace is Corey Amis, a product of Newton County High School.

Amis was 2-6 in 2001 with a 4.4 ERA. He registered 69 strikeouts in 63 and 2/3 innings. His opponents' batting average was just .201.

"Corey is basically a power pitcher; he's got velocity and a real good breaking ball. He has also developed an effective change-up. In addition, he is a lot bigger and stronger this year, and we expect great things from him this spring," Yarborough said.

Chris Comans of Newton will also be a vital part of the pitching rotation.

Comans posted a 4.34 ERA, and his opponents' batting average was .265. He was 2-2 overall and had one save.

"Chris worked hard this fall and we are counting on him to have a successful season on the mound," Yarborough said.

Corey Blackwell of Nanih Waiya will also be a key ingredient in the pitching mix.

"Corey's ERA last year was 4.62 and he kept hitters down to a .197 batting average. His record was 0-1 but his three saves led the team. Corey has good control and keeps the ball down," Yarborough said.

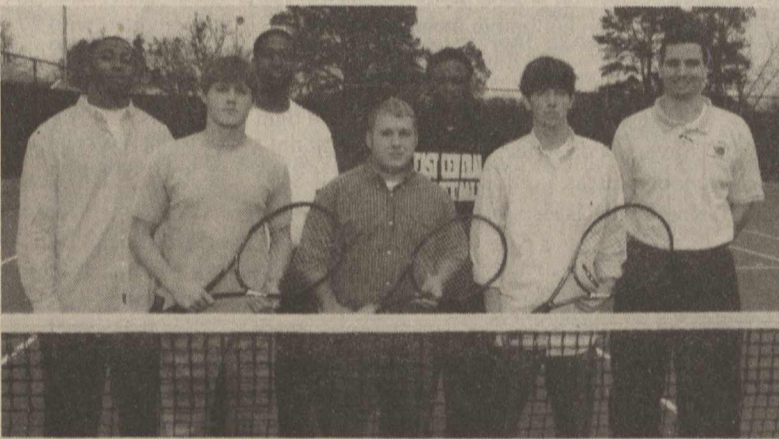
Yarborough also anticipates a productive offensive performance, and mentioned several players who were effective in fall practice. At the top of the list is freshman Jake Nester, a freshman shortstop/second baseman from Lake.

"Jake was our leading hitter in the fall, posting a .419 batting average with two doubles and one home run. Other top hitters were Jarrod Vaughn of Louisville, Joey Holcomb of Locust Fork High School in Alabama, Justin Darby of Union and Chad Loper of Chatom, Alabama," he said.

Serving as Yarborough's assistant is Patrick Robey, a former coach and player at Delta State University.

"Patrick has done an outstanding job for us. His primarily responsibility is working with infielders but he also helps in other areas. He knows what it takes to win, having been a part of winning program at DSU," Yarborough said.

The Diamond Warriors begin the 2002 campaign on Tuesday, February 12, against the West Alabama junior varsity. The single contest gets underway at 2 p.m. on the Livingston campus.



Warrior Tennis Team

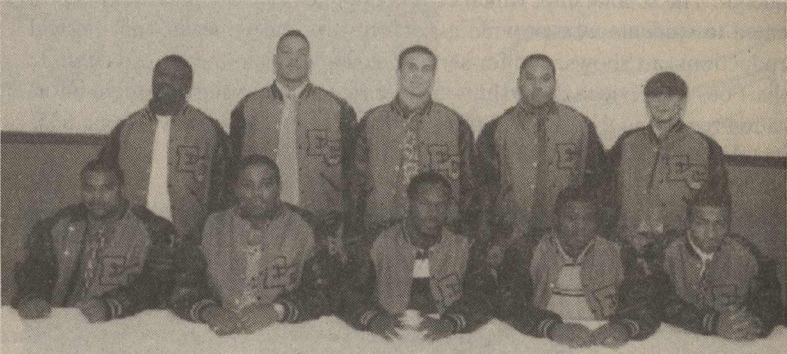
Members of the 2002 East Central Community College men's tennis team include (front, from left) Blake Revette of Newton, Chad Austin of Forest and Ty Anderson of Decatur, and (back row, from left) Teon Wilson of Newton, Donzell Crenshaw of Memphis, Demario Qualls of Newton and Coach Brad Hodge. Not pictured is Wayne Lewis.



ECCC Lady Warrior Softball Team

These members of the East Central Community College fast-pitch softball team are eagerly anticipating the 2002 season, which gets underway Tuesday, February 19, when the Lady Warriors host East Mississippi Community College in double-header action beginning at 1:30 p.m. on the Decatur campus. The East Central women posted a 20-20 record in 2001, which represented their first season of fast-pitch competition. First row, from left, are inflielder Rachel Smith, Grace Christian; catcher Sommer Averett, Union; outfielder Paige Sullivan, Nanih Waiya; pitcher/outfielder Jennie Battle, Philadelphia; and pitcher/outfielder April Bufkin, Newton County. Second row, from left, are outfielder Brandi Upton, Newton County Academy; infielders Faith Whitfield and Bernice Hannah, both of Louisville; outfielder Rhonda Munn, Philadelphia; and inflielder Jackie Avant, Newton County. Standing from left are pitcher/first baseman Emily Casey, Union; catcher Anna Moore, Pearl; inflielder Amanda Wilcher, Edinburg; outfielder Krystal Moore, Philadelphia; outfielder Frances McDougale, Union; and inflielder

ECCC! With You In Mind!



ECCC Football Team Award Winners

Above are members of the 2001 East Central Community College football team who received various team honors presented at the annual awards banquet held on the Decatur campus. Seated from left are linebacker John Bibb of Tuscaloosa (Alabama) Central High School, permanent team captain (defense); offensive lineman Jerry Spencer of North Moore High School in Eagle Springs, North Carolina, most valuable offensive lineman; wide receiver Dontay Spillman of Valley High School in Louisville, Kentucky, most valuable offensive back; running back Patrick Prince of Tuscaloosa (Alabama) County High School, most valuable player; and Darrius "Buck" Thames of Philadelphia, Kemba Bryant most Valuable Defensive Back. Standing from left are running back Chad Warren of Quitman, co-recipient of the "Warrior Award"; defensive lineman Keith Curry of Newton County High School, co-recipient of the most valuable defensive lineman award; quarterback Brian Zbydniowski of Choctawhatchee High School in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, permanent team captain (offense); defensive lineman Courtney Steele of Tuscaloosa (Alabama) County High School, co-recipient of the most valuable defensive lineman award; and defensive back Josh Chaney of Newton County High School, Academic Award and co-recipient of the "Warrior Award." East Central posted a 6-3 regular season mark and finished second in the South Division with a 4-2 mark. The Warriors advanced to the state playoffs where they fell to Mississippi Delta Community College in semi-final action.



ECCC Soccer Award Winners

These members of the East Central Community College soccer team received various honors following the 2001 campaign. Award recipients included (seated from left) Johnathan Shoemaker of Newton County, Hustle Award; Derek Dunn of Neshoba Central, co-recipient of the most valuable player award and first team All-State; and Brandon Ditto of Brandon, best offensive player and honorable mention All-State. Standing from left are Branden Land of Corinth, team captain and Coach's Warrior Award; Nate Alexander of Corinth, best defensive player; Seltue Karweaye of Monrovia, Liberia in West Africa, honorable mention All-State; Caleb May of Leake Academy, most improved; and Gardito Ruiz of Warren Central, co-recipient of the most valuable player award and first team All-State. Not pictured is Wesley Rounsaville of Philadelphia, Warrior Scholar Athlete Award. The Soccer Warriors completed season action by placing third in the South Division standings with a 4-3-1 record. The overall mark was 6-8-1. Kenneth Thompson is head coach and Roy Pete serves as a volunteer assistant.



Warrior Golf Team

Serving on the 2002 East Central Community College golf team are (kneeling from left) Justin Wilkes of Noxapater, Zach Thames of Newton and David Byrt of Newton County Academy, and (standing from left) E. J. Bane of Louisville, Jeremy Stevens and Kody Comans, both of Newton County High School, and Nathan Stamper of Newton County Academy. Not pictured are Hardy Gross and Richard Lee, both of Carthage, and Coach Tim Coats.





Tom Tom

Volume 55, Number 5

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

March 2002

East Central dedicates Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium

On a perfect day for baseball in a place called "Warriorville" by the late head coach Jamie Clark, East Central Community College named its baseball stadium for the longtime leader of the Diamond Warriors during a ceremony held February 18, 2002, prior to the team's home opener with East Mississippi.

Clark, who lost his six-month battle to cancer on July 18, 2001, was remembered before a large gathering of colleagues, current and former ECCC baseball players, opposing coaches, students and his many friends.

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president, said naming the stadium in Clark's memory is an appropriate tribute to the former head coach, who led the Diamond Warriors to a state title in 1998.

"It's something (stadium dedication) we've been planning for a while," Sutphin said. "Coach Clark meant so much to so many people and a lot of them are here today."

"One of the things he did when he recruited players was he recruited students, and he wanted to be sure that they grew as men and got the most out of their education they could get."

"He always had a smile and a lot of jokes. He's missed and we would hope that a day like today will be a fitting commemoration for his time at EC."

Larry Blackburn, former ECCC faculty/staff member, provided a personal glimpse of his longtime friend.

"Miss Audrey (Jamie's widow) wanted to convey that the years spent here were not a job, but a way of life. I believe everyone who knew Jamie would agree with that statement. It seemed if Jamie was not on the baseball field, he was at home reading about baseball or watching baseball on TV. He truly loved to talk baseball."

"Today, I believe it is particularly fitting that Jamie be recognized for the positive influence he had on the young men that traveled through the East Central baseball program. By naming this facility 'Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium,' all players and others will be reminded of the influence Jamie had on East Central Community College baseball."

Audrey was assisted by daughter, Nicki, as they unveiled the monument designating the facility as Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium. The ceremony contin-

ued on Chris Gay IV Memorial Field, where Clark's jersey #41 was retired following remarks by Jake Yarborough, current Diamond Warrior head coach and

former Clark assistant.

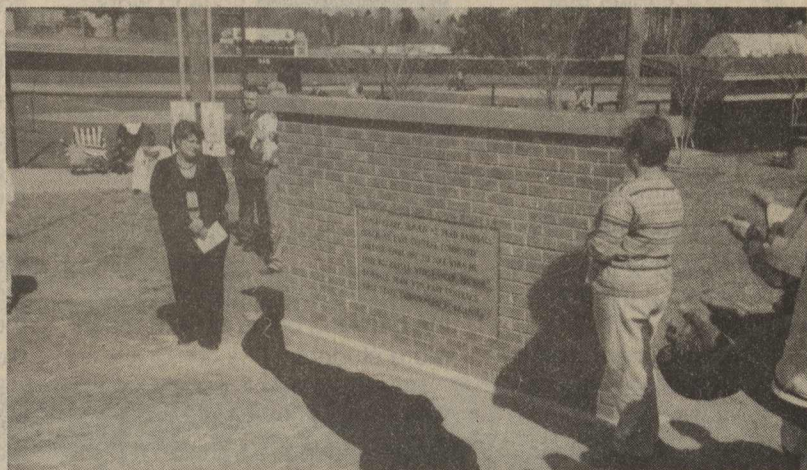
Yarborough announced that Clark's jersey number 41 will no longer be worn by an East Central baseball player or coach, but

will be permanently displayed in two prominent locations. Clark's grey jersey-the same one he wore when East Central won the state championship-is now

on display in the lobby of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building, and a replica of his jersey is shown on the right field

See Clark, Page 8

East Central Community College officially named its baseball stadium in memory of former head baseball coach Jamie Clark during ceremonies held February 18 at Chris Gay IV Memorial Field. In the top photo, Clark's widow, Audrey Clark, and their daughter, Nicki, stand next to the monument designating the facility as "Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium." In the lower photo, Jake Yarborough, ECCC head baseball coach who served as an assistant to Coach Clark, addresses the crowd as Clark's jersey #41 (shown in a shadow box) is officially retired, and will never be worn by an ECCC coach or player. The grey jersey - the same one he wore when the Diamond Warriors won the state title in 1998 - will be permanently on display in the lobby of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. A replica of his jersey is also displayed on the right field fence next to a sign calling attention to the state title. Coach Yarborough presented Audrey Clark with the white jersey her husband wore last year. Pictured with Coach Yarborough are (from left) Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Coach Tommy Clopton, master of ceremonies; Audrey Clark, her father, James Durr of Belzoni; Nicki Clark; Audrey's son Billy Turner of Slidell, La.; and Larry Blackburn, retired ECCC staff member who provided personal remarks about the longtime Diamond Warrior coach who lost his battle with cancer last summer. Blackburn also constructed the shadow box used to display Clark's jersey. In the background are members of the 2002 ECCC baseball team.



Denson, Eakes selected Mr., Miss ECCC

James Denson of Walnut Grove and Jessica Eakes of Philadelphia were recently selected Mr. and Miss East Central Community College for 2001-2002. The two were selected by a vote of the student body.

Denson is a sophomore sports medicine major. He is a member of the Warrior basketball team where he received the rebound award his freshman year and was selected best offensive player.

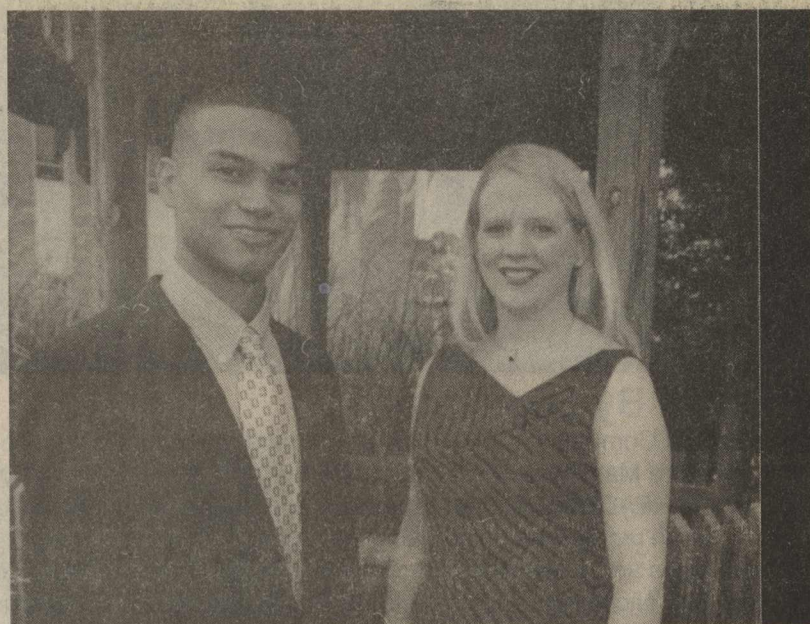
He is a Dean's List scholar and was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

Denson is the son of Carl and Glenda Isaac of Walnut Grove. A sophomore liberal arts

major, Eakes is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, Warrior Corps, Students in Free Enterprise, the yearbook staff, concert choir, Ac'cents show choir and Diamond Girls.

She also serves as president of the sophomore class, vice president for fellowship of Phi Theta Kappa and vice president of the Warrior Corps. Eakes is a Dean's List Scholar and was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community and Junior Colleges.

Eakes is the daughter of Robin Eakes and Richard and Aletha Eakes, all of Philadelphia. Mr. and Miss ECCC will be featured in the 2002 edition of the college yearbook, the Wo-He-Lo.



James Denson (left) of Walnut Grove and Jessica Eakes of Philadelphia were recently selected Mr. and Miss ECCC.

Donates Blood

East Central Community College sophomore Brian Newell of Meridian was among members of the student body, faculty and staff who donated blood during a February 5 blood drive conducted by United Blood Services and held on the Decatur campus. Newell, a liberal arts major and graduate of Clarkdale Attendance Center, is shown being prepped by Kimberly Shumate, senior donor care specialist with UBS. Approximately 40 pints of blood were gathered following the drive, according to Gloria Rigdon, College nurse.

Will tuition continue to rise for Mississippi community college students?

Since fiscal year 2000, community and junior colleges have seen their state funding decreased by \$36,207,074 or 17.7 percent, according to reports by the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC).

East Central Community College alone has seen a decrease of 14.5 percent of its operating budget in the last two years. To cushion the blow of these cuts, the college has decreased travel budgets and has put off buying new supplies and equipment. Tuition also increased by \$100 beginning with the fall 2001 semester and many vacant positions have not been filled.

Legislative Budget Recommendations call for an additional 12.2 percent or \$19,622,286 to be cut from the FY 2003 funding. With these additional budget cuts almost certain, what is the next step for East Central Community College?

College president Dr. Phil Sutphin said students would not see any changes for the remainder of the 2001-02 college term, but minor changes might be necessary

for 2002-03 as a result of budget reductions.

"Tuition and fees increases is one of the options for dealing with reduced state funding but no recommendation or decision has been made," Dr. Sutphin said.

According to a survey by the SBCJC, tuition among all community and junior colleges in Mississippi has increased by 25.8 percent during FY 2002. And 10 out of 15 colleges have indicated the need for increasing tuition in FY 2003 by an average of \$115 per semester.

Dr. Sutphin also said that, as in the past, there is the possibility of unfilled positions, but the college does not anticipate layoffs. There are currently 13 vacant full-time positions on the EC campus.

The survey conducted by the SBCJC states that if reductions as recommended by the Legislative Budget Committee become reality in FY 2003, the 15 community colleges expect to eliminate approximately 122 full-time and 32 part-time positions.

So how will the loss of faculty positions affect class sizes and the quality of education? Dr. Sutphin said, "We would anticipate the same number and variety of course offerings. Class sizes may increase, but every

effort will be taken to ensure quality instruction continues at EC."

Dr. Sutphin also said he doesn't anticipate the budget cuts affecting student activities at the College. "At this point we do not envision any cuts to our student activities program, including scholarships (for athletics, band, etc.)," he said.

For those seeking financial assistance, Dr. Sutphin said, "We continue to seek outside funding for student scholarships. Also, there will be an increase in Pell Grant funds for FY 2003. Federal aid dollars are available and state monies through MTAG (Mississippi Resident Tuition Assistance Grant) continue to be available."

Problems with funding are also taking their toll on the College's Workforce Development Center.

Roger Whitlock, Director of the WDC, said, "East Central currently plays a



Roger Whitlock

major role in the economic development of our district by providing workforce training services for existing and potential employers. If the legislature does not commit immediate and

lasting funds for these initiatives, the College will be seriously hindered in its ability to provide training opportunities to businesses and industries in our area. Additional cuts could significantly limit the College in offering customized services or eliminate staff members currently dedicated to workforce needs in the district."

What do students think about the budget cuts and the possibility of tuition increases?

Stacey York, a freshman education major from Decatur, said,

"I think people are concerned with the costs of things and worried that they might lose their financial aid. The possibility of tuition going up again is frightening. We come to college and try our hardest and then something like that could happen and it puts a strain on people."

Student Body Association president Andy Murphy, a sophomore music major from Meridian, said, "The budget cuts are not good. We didn't have that much (money) to start with."

Our SBA budget got cut a little. That means we have to sell more t-shirts and things like

that to fund our activities. And people already don't have much money."

As for a rise in tuition,



Andy Murphy

much lower. Eventually it will be just as cheap to attend a senior college. I think it could definitely hurt enrollment if it continues to go up."

Members of the East Central faculty are also concerned about how the budget reductions will affect their classrooms.

Biology instructor Patti



Patti Davis

Davis, who also serves as president of the ECCC Administration, Faculty and Staff Association said, "I feel that all of our programs at East Central will suffer if funding continues to be cut. I hope that we will be able to continue to support our programs and purchase materials needed for labs, classes, and activities."

John Adcock, Dean of Vocational-Technical Instruction, said, "Funds are critical because there are supplies that must be purchased in order to teach skills required for employ-



John Adcock

ment in technology areas. We've already cut to the point that we don't have anything else to cut."

So where do things go from here? Will colleges get their funding restored?

"The Legislature continues to speak positively about what we do, but we have not seen any increases in funding or reductions in our losses," Dr. Sutphin said.

He added, "The community and junior colleges' number one priority is the restoration of funding at the FY 2000 level, but there has not been any movement in that direction."

The 2002 session of the Mississippi Legislature is beyond the halfway point and senators and representatives continue to struggle with the financial crisis that faces Mississippi. And until the Legislature completes its work, the College cannot complete the FY 2003 budget.

Virtual Community College gains popularity

But is it for everyone?

The Mississippi Virtual Community College, which offers courses online through the state's 15 community and junior colleges, continues to gain popularity as 6400 students are enrolled in 126 courses this semester.

According to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction, East Central Community College offers 13 courses online and that number is expected to increase.

"I continue to encourage

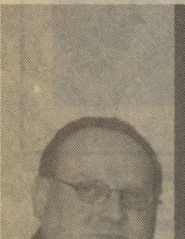


Dr. Lavinia Sparkman

faculty members to offer classes online," said Dr. Sparkman. "Evaluations have shown that students are positive concerning their experience in taking classes online and we expect an increase in the number of classes offered and the number of people taking these courses."

Timothy Fieber, a freshman pre-medical major from Neshoba Central, is enrolled in trigonometry online and says he enjoys the internet class.

"It's easy for me because I've had trig before," Fieber said. "I like it better than a regular class because I can work on my own. You have to stay caught up with the work but it's worth it to be able to work on my own."



Timothy Fieber

He also said that he has no trouble keeping in touch with the instructor.

"I can always email the instructor," he said. "Or she said we could call or write her."

There are also advantages for instructors who teach online.

English instructor Virginia Pace, who teaches literature classes online, said one benefit of teaching courses is convenience. "The major advantage to online teaching is probably the same as for students-convenience. I can deal with email or grade tests from any location and any time of day. If I am on vacation or break, I can still access my students so



Virginia Pace

they can continue to work," Pace said.

Assistant band director Jared Brownlee, who offers his music appreciation course online, said, "One advantage of teaching online is being able to reach more students."

He added that one major difference between teaching online and in the traditional classroom is the interaction between teacher and student.

"I use my 'personality' when teaching my traditional class," Brownlee said. "I tell them funny stories and use humor to help them remember much of the material. It is very difficult to do this in an online situation."

Pace said the thing she finds most difficult is keeping up with all the email.

"It is overwhelming at times," she said. "It is also difficult when there is a breakdown in the state system or if our server is down for some reason."

Both instructors agree that online classes are not for everyone, but for self-disciplined students.



Jared Brownlee

"I would recommend my class to non-traditional students that may have a problem taking classes offered during working hours or at night," Brownlee said. "My course is self-paced so they can complete it at their leisure as long as they meet the deadline."

He added, "Students who have trouble going to class on a regular basis or those who have a problem with being habitually tardy most likely will not do well in an online class. If they lack the discipline to go to class on their own, they probably will lack the discipline to log on and complete the work on their own."

Pace said, "The students who seem to be more successful are those who are highly motivated or perfectionists. They want to get it done and sometimes push me to keep up with them. A lot of mothers who are home with small children take the classes and they generally work hard."

She also said people who don't have some degree of computer literacy need to stick to traditional classes.

Dr. Sparkman agreed that students need to have some

knowledge of computers before signing up for online classes.

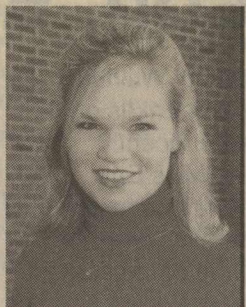
"Computer knowledge is essential for online courses and beginning with the 2002 fall semester, a tutorial will be given as part of the admissions process to ensure students have the necessary skills to be successful in the class," Dr. Sparkman said.

When asked what advice she would give students considering taking an online course, Dr. Sparkman said, "Be sure you want to do this. It is very time consuming. Talk with other students that have taken online classes and even talk with one of the instructors if possible."

She added, "Online courses are not for everyone, but there are plenty of people that are able to get the education they never felt was possible because of online instruction. Mississippi is on the cutting edge with this type of instruction and I'm glad that EC is a part of this endeavor."

To register for online classes, regular college admission requirements must be met in advance and students must have an email address. For more information about online courses and requirements, contact the Office of Admission, Records and Research at ECCC, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, Miss. 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 206, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 206. The email address is dluke@eccc.ms.us .

Sophomore Lana Rogers named Leake County's Miss Hospitality



East Central sophomore Lana Rogers of Walnut Grove was recently named Leake County's 2002 Miss Hospitality.

She will represent Leake County in the state-wide competition for Mississippi's Miss Hospitality in Hattiesburg July 21-27.

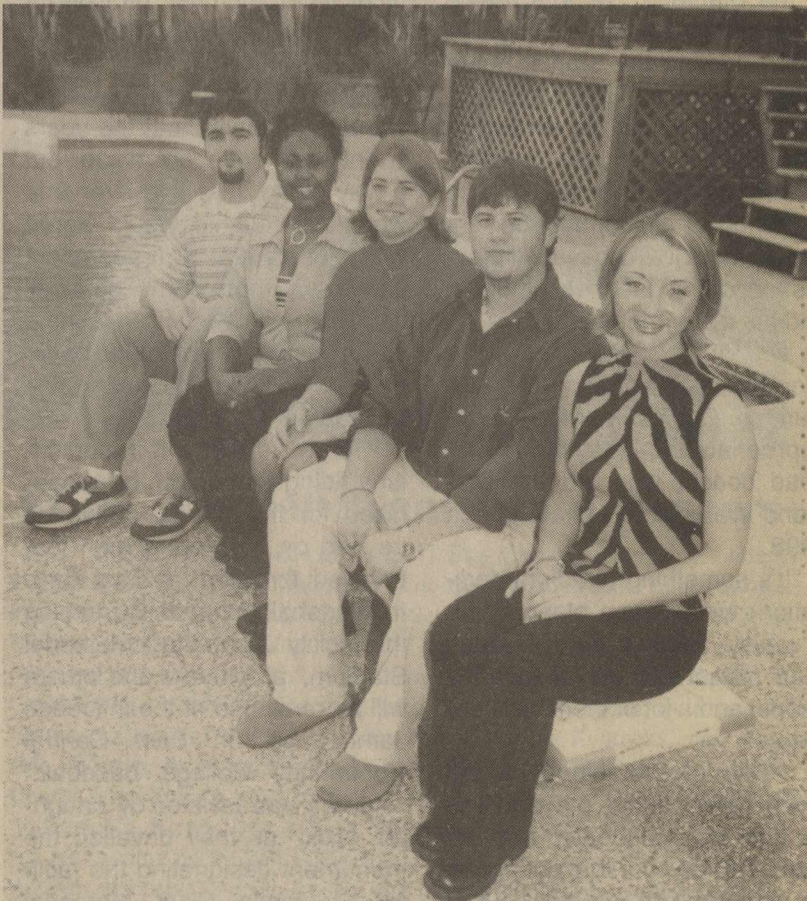
Lana is the daughter of Dale and Penny Rogers of Walnut Grove. She is a graduate of Leake Academy and is a music education major at ECCC.

Other contestants in the pageant were ECCC students Tanya Primer and Lisa Chamblee, both of Carthage.



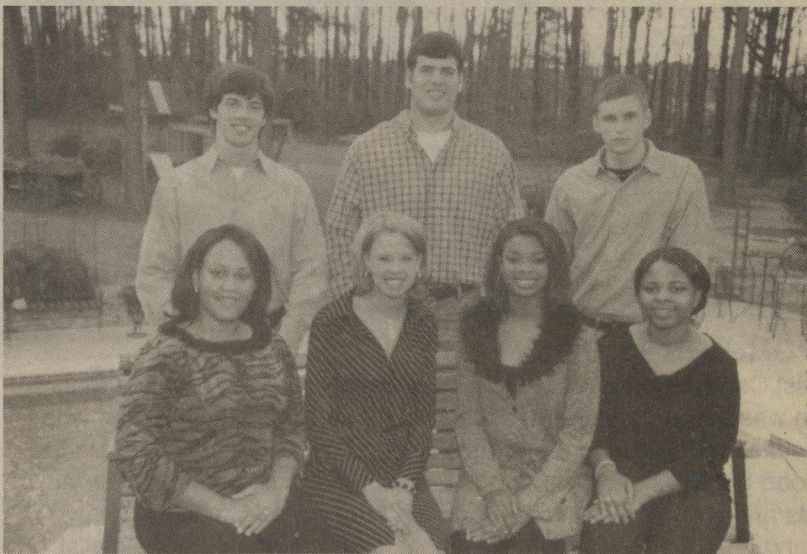
Burkes receives Harris award

Former East Central Community College head librarian and Phi Theta Kappa co-advisor Ann Burkess (center) of Decatur was presented the Shelby Harris Alumni Award during the spring semester induction ceremony for members of the College's Theta Xi Chapter of the International Honor Society. Burkess retired last year following 32 years of service at East Central. Also shown are Martha Sibley, ECCC staff member who presented the award to Mrs. Burkess, and Dr. Harris, for whom the award is named.



Selected freshman favorites

These students were recently selected freshman class favorites at East Central Community College. Pictured are (front to back) Jennie Battle of Philadelphia, David Burt of Newton County Academy, Rachel Smith of Grace Christian Academy, Cassie Henson of Philadelphia and Nathan Stamper of Newton County Academy. Not pictured is Wesley Wright of Winston Academy.



Sophomore favorites

These students were recently selected sophomore class favorites at East Central Community College. Pictured are (front row, from left) Kathy Jones of Neshoba Central, Jennifer Cuchens of Newton and Melonie Moore and Heather Brantley, both of Neshoba Central; and (back row, from left) Caleb May of Leake Academy, Brian Lillis of Neshoba Central and Chris Carson of Newton County. Not pictured is Corey Blackwell of Nanih Waiya.

Honored By Legislature

East Central Community College faculty member Marc McCool (second, from left) of Louisville and sophomore Matt Davis of Decatur (third from left) were honored by the Mississippi Legislature at the annual HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) program, which recognizes outstanding instructors and students representing the state's public and private colleges and universities. Shown with the honorees are Sen. Terry C. Burton of Newton (from left), Rep. Billy Nicholson of Union and Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president. McCool teaches social science courses at East Central, where he has been employed since 1998. Davis, an engineering major, has maintained a 4.0 grade point average. His parents are Ron and Patti Davis of Decatur.

New 'tricks' planned for spring band concert

The East Central Community College band department is gearing up towards another great spring concert this semester, announced Jared Brownlee, assistant band director

The spring band concert is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, at 7 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free and the public is invited.

"After having an 'electric and explosive' marching show this past fall, the concert band, jazz band and percussion ensemble look to be the best ever," Brownlee said.

The concert band, under the direction of Brownlee, will play patriotic selections including the widely known march "National Emblem" by E.E. Bagel and a beautiful arrangement of "America the Beautiful". The band will also be performing a transcription of the early piano work "Allegro Barbaro" by early 20th century composer Bela Bartok.

In addition, they will perform a selection from the well-known modern band composer Jared Spears titled "At a Dixieland Jazz Funeral."

Those attending will also hear the smooth sounds of the East Central jazz band, under the direction of ECCC Director of Bands Thomas Carson. The talented group will play jazz classics such as "Ursa Minor" by George Shuter, "Groovin' Hard" by Don Menza, the ballad "Traces" by Don Wolpe and a "special surprise" for the closer.

According to Brownlee, the percussion ensemble has a few

"new tricks" up their sleeves this year and will add a performance from special "guest artists" to close out the concert!

Not wanting to let too

much information out about this year's percussion ensemble performance, Brownlee simply said, "You don't want to miss it!"

East Central Community College Players to present the musical 'Footloose' April 11-13

The East Central Community College Players will present the musical "Footloose" Thursday through Saturday, April 11-13 in the Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium on the Decatur campus. Performances begin at 7 o'clock each evening. Tickets are \$10.

Production director Juanita West said, "'Footloose' is the story of a free-spirited kid named Ren (Chris Carson of Decatur) who moves from the big city of Chicago to a small town where, after a local tragedy, dancing and just about anything else that is fun has been

banned. So he has to convince the local minister and the town council that the high school kids should have the right to throw a school dance."

She added, "March 1, 2002 was the first date for amateur productions of 'Footloose,' which makes East Central one of the first organizations to present this musical."

In addition to Carson, cast members and their respective hometowns include Kristen Thornton (Ariel), Janette Robinson (Ethel), Megan Morrison (Aunt LuLu), Lisa Chamblee

(Urleen), Deidre Greer (Eleanor Dunbar) and Ura Seymer (Garvin), all of Carthage; Caleb Cook (Rev. Shaw Moore) of Hickory; Jennifer Savell (Vi) of Lake; Tom Clark (Uncle Wes) and Ricardo Robinson (Willard), both of Decatur; Tony Harris (Coach Dunbar) of Union; Shanna Travis (Rusty) of Crystal Springs; Megan Trammill (Wendy Jo), Laura Shook (Betty Blast), Paul Mason (Cop) and Alyssa Ford (chorus member), all of Newton; Adam Mann (Chuck Cranston), Bill Cole (Travis), Krystal Moore (country singer

Irene) and Shalonda Buckley (chorus member), all of Philadelphia; Anthony Barfield (Lyle) of Collinsville; Casey Smith (Principal Clark) of Louisville; Billy McClurg (Jeter) of French Camp; Joshua Ray (Bickle) of Walnut Grove; Terrance Williams (chorus member) of Lena; and Kristen Persons (chorus member) of Noxapater.

The musical is directed by Regina Rigby of Forest.

For ticket information contact the College switchboard at 635-2111, ext. 215.

College sets Spring enrollment record

A spring record enrollment of 2329 students are taking classes at East Central Community College in Decatur, announced Donna Luke, Director of Admissions, Records and Research.

Luke said the spring 2002 enrollment represents an increase of 156 students when compared with the previous spring record of 2173 students who registered for classes during the 2001 spring term.

Of the 2329 students enrolled at the College, 1636 are full time students while 687 attend classes part-time.

A record 2435 students were enrolled during the fall semester.

In addition to courses offered on the Decatur campus, East Central provides classes at various locations throughout the district which includes Leake, Newton, Neshoba, Scott and Winston counties.



The Tom Tom

The Tom-Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, MS. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the Public Information staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 242.

Accreditation

East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. The college is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967.

Warrior Athletics

Lady Warriors end season with loss to MCC in Region 23

A second-straight Region 23 Tournament crown was not in the cards for East Central Community College's Lady Warriors who succumbed to nationally ranked Meridian Community College 89-80 on March 4 in first-round action of the annual competition held at A. E. Wood Coliseum on the Mississippi College campus in Clinton.

The East Central women, who finished the season with a 14-11 record under first-year head coach Brad Hodge, trailed by as many as 18 points (36-18) during the first half, but were able to trim the MCC lead to

40-30 at the break. The Lady Warriors cut the lead to six at 78-72 with about three minutes remaining but could get no closer as the 12th-ranked Lady Eagles pulled away for the victory and improved to 29-2.

Sophomore standout Nikki LaCour, a product of Natchitoches (La.) Central, led all scorers with 35 points. Also scoring for East Central were Tamekia Foley of Newton County, 12; Shaneka Cistrunk of Louisville, nine; Lori Cumberland of Leake Academy, eight; Christina Ford of Enterprise, seven; Ashley Brown of Scott Central, four;

Shelly Giddings of University City (Penn.) High School, three; and Melinda Ben of Choctaw Central, two.

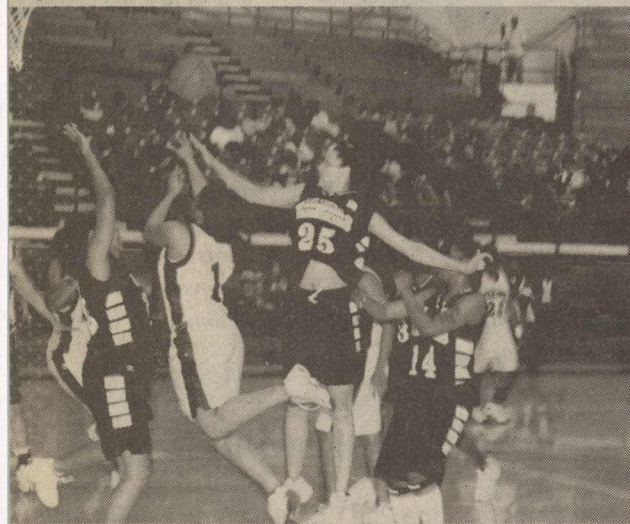
Genice Terry of Raymond had 26 points to lead Meridian.

East Central won the Region 23 Tournament last year by posting a 91-71 thumping of Northwest Mississippi Community College. The Lady Warriors, who were led by Coach Sammy Pace, advanced to the NJCAA Tournament before completing season action with a 22-7 mark. Pace retired following the 2001-02 term and was succeeded by his former assistant.



Sophomore Lady Warriors honored

Sophomores on the ECCC women's basketball team were honored following their final home game of the 2001-02 season held February 21 with Hinds Community College in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Family members joined Lady Warriors, managers and coaches during the presentation. From left are Toby Bush, assistant coach; forward Trelisa Eichelberger and manager Danyell Hudson, both of Noxapater; guard/forward Christina Ford, Enterprise; guard Lori Cumberland, Leake Academy; guard Shelly Giddings, Universal City High School, Philadelphia, PA; guard Nikki LaCour, Natchitoches (La.) Central; Brad Hodge, head coach; and Carolyn Ford Nettles of Forest, mother of Lady Warrior La'Shonda "Smurf" Ford, who lost her life in an automobile accident following her freshman season. The Lady Warriors defeated Hinds 81-65 and completed regular season action with a 13-9 record. The East Central women also competed in the MACJC and Region 23 Tournaments.



Lady Warrior Nikki LaCour (25) and Genice Taylor (1) of Meridian Community College fight for the rebound during first-round women's action of the Region 23 Tournament held March 5 at A. E. Wood Coliseum on the Mississippi College campus in Clinton. The Lady Eagles, ranked 12th in the national prior to the matchup, came away with an 89-80 win and advanced to the semi-finals. LaCour, a product of Natchitoches (La.) Central High School, led all scorers with 35 points. Other Lady Warriors shown are (from left) Lori Cumberland (21) of Leake Academy, Ashley Brown (32) of Scott Central and Shelly Giddings (14) of Philadelphia, PA. East Central completed the 2001-02 campaign with a 14-11 mark under first-year head coach Brad Hodge.

Lady Diamond Warriors Improve To 11-1 Following Sweep Of Mississippi Delta

East Central Community College's fast-pitch softball team cruised to a double-header sweep of visiting Mississippi Delta on March 7 and improved to 11-1 for the 2002 campaign.

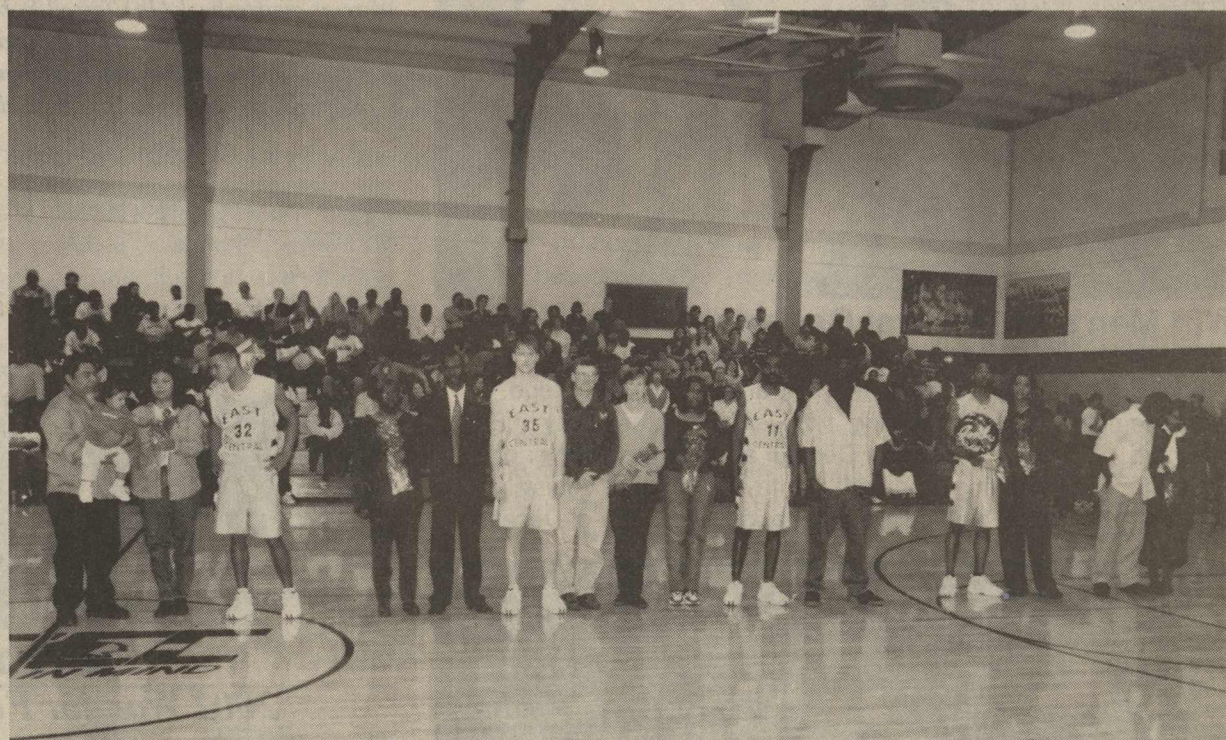
The Lady Diamond Warriors exploded for 12 runs - including back-to-back homers by Anna Moore of Pearl and April Bufkin of Newton County- in the first inning of game one en route to a 20-2 thrashing over the Lady Trojans. Moore and Bufkin

also had singles each and scored twice in the non-division matchup, which was called after five innings. Other top sluggers were Rhonda Munn of Philadelphia and Sommer Averett of Union, with two singles each and two runs scored. Emily Casey of Union picked up her sixth win on the mound.

In the second game- a 14-5 decision - Munn and Averett led the offensive attack as they went three-for-four and scored

three runs each. Paige Posey of Philadelphia went three-for-three with two RBIs and two runs scored. Casey went one-for-three with one run scored and four RBIs. Bufkin earned the win for East Central, as she improved to 5-1.

East Central returns to action March 19 against Southwest Mississippi Community College at 1:30 p.m. on the Decatur campus.

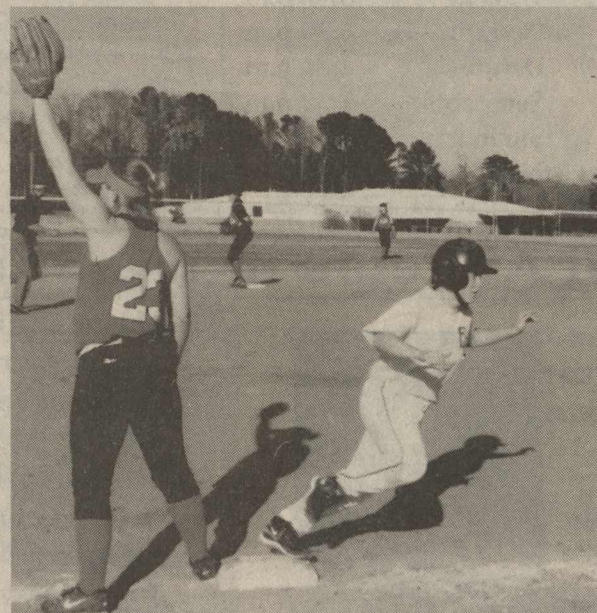


Warrior sophomores honored

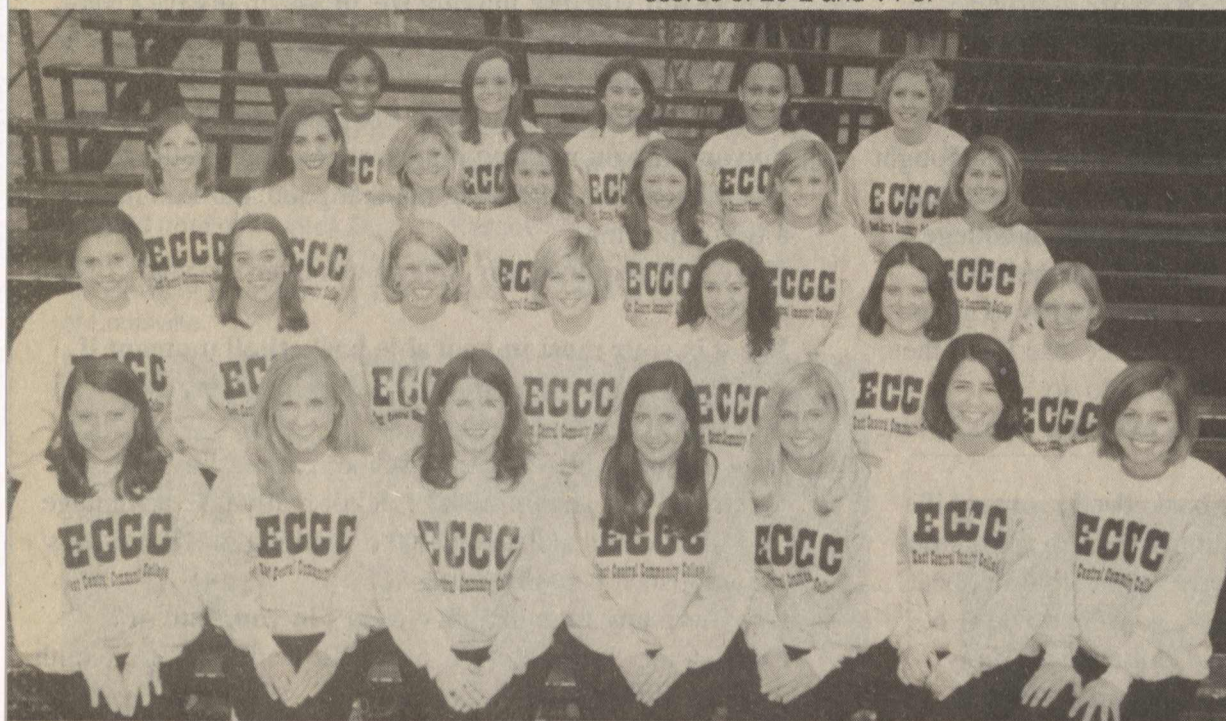
Sophomores on the ECCC men's basketball team were honored prior to their season-ending matchup with Hinds Community College on February 21 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Family members joined the honorees during the special presentation. From left are (32) James Denson of Choctaw Central, manager Kenneth McWilliams (wearing suit) of Philadelphia, (35) Clint Hatch of Carthage, (11) Maurice English of Union, (21) Winfred Craig of Louisville and Markeith Brown of Jackson Province, who was injured earlier in the season. The Warriors, under first-year head coach Billy Smith, finished 10-12 overall and were 5-7 in South Division action.



Third baseman Paige Posey applies the tag to an East Mississippi player in the Lady Warriors' season opener on February 19. The Lady Warriors swept the Lady Lions with scores of 6-4 and 4-2.



Sommer Averett rounds third and later scores against Mississippi Delta in the Lady Warriors' double-header sweep of the visiting Lady Trojans. East Central improved to 11-1 after posting scores of 20-2 and 14-5.



2002 ECCC Diamond Girls

Members of the East Central Community College Diamond Girls for the 2001-2002 term and their respective high schools include (first row, from left) Ashley Holdiness, Noxapater; Cynthia Fleming and Hailey Reynolds, both of Louisville; Brandi Bounds, West Lauderdale; Jennifer Walker and Elizabeth Johnson, both of Neshoba Central; and Whitney Harris, Newton County; (second row, from left) Rebecca Germany and Clair Edgar, both of Union; Jennifer Cuchens, Newton; Keri Keith, Newton County; Leigh Ann Morrow, Enterprise; and April McAdory and Victoria Daniels, both of Neshoba Central; (third row, from left) Carrie Shrock and Christen Herrington, both of Leake Academy; Hailey Waggoner, Morton; Andrea Walker, Edinburg; Molly Addkison, Winston Academy; Becky Herrington, Louisville; and Beth Pearson, Nanih Waiya; and (fourth row, from left) Chalunda Hudson and Jennifer Watkins, both of Philadelphia; Katy Bourland, Winston Academy; Kathy Jones, Neshoba Central; and Brandi Upton, Newton County Academy. Not pictured are Jessica Eakes, Philadelphia; Missy Suttle, Noxapater; Laura Shook, Newton; and Whitney Westberry, Forest. Christi Lee Lewis serves as sponsor.



HAVE YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO FILL THESE BOOTS?

"The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by the dust and sweat and blood... who at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat."

Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., US President and National Guardsman

The Mississippi Army National Guard is looking for the best and brightest men and women to serve as citizen-soldiers. You can do it while going to college, working a full-time job, or both. The commitment is part-time, but the benefits last a lifetime. Rewards like Pride. Skills. Memories. Friendships. And the satisfaction of knowing that what you're doing makes a difference.

We need you. You can do it.
Call 1-800 GO GUARD.



ECCC spans EMCC in spring game 26-13

East Central Community College concluded spring football drills on February 28 by defeating East Mississippi Community College 26-13 at Warrior Stadium.

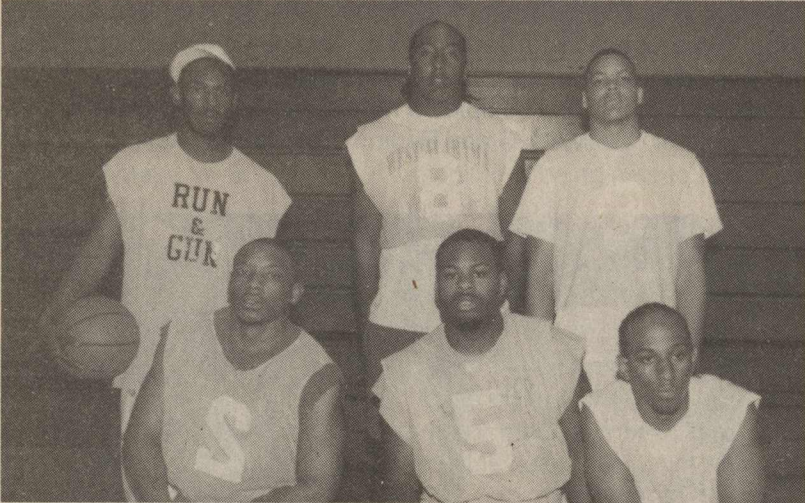
East Central grabbed an early 7-0 lead on a six-yard scamper by running back Ramon Williams of Daphne, Ala. Travares Osley of Hueytown, Ala., kicked the PAT.

After East Mississippi closed the scoring gap to 7-6, the Warriors responded with two tallies - an 85-yard fumble return by line-backer Josh Viverette of Lake and a 33-yard dash by quarterback Terrell Robinson of Palatka, Fla., - to take a 20-6 lead at halftime.

East Central's final points came on a 17-yard run by quarterback Kevin Stevens of Troy, Ala. Osley added the PAT. Stevens' touchdown was set up by

Robinson's 53-yard gainer. The Lions scored late on a two-yard run. Terry Underwood, ECCC head coach, said he was pleased with the Warriors' effort. "The spring game was a good experience for both teams, as it provided an opportunity for players to block and tackle someone other than their teammates for a change. We did a lot of good things, and obviously there are some areas where we need to improve. Overall, it was great feeling to end spring training on a positive note. I certainly appreciate Coach (Tom) Goode and his staff for bringing their players to Decatur and participating in our spring game."

The Warriors begin the 2002 campaign by hosting Holmes Community College on Thursday, September 5. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. at Warrior Stadium.



Win Men's Intramural Basketball Title

"Sacrifice" recently claimed the men's intramural basketball A-league competition held at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling, from left) Travares Osley of Birmingham, Ala., Cedric Cotton of Decatur and Marcus Hibbler of Louisville; and (standing, from left) Dontay Spillman of Louisville, Ky., Johnny Jackson of Aliceville, Ala., and Keith Curry of Decatur.



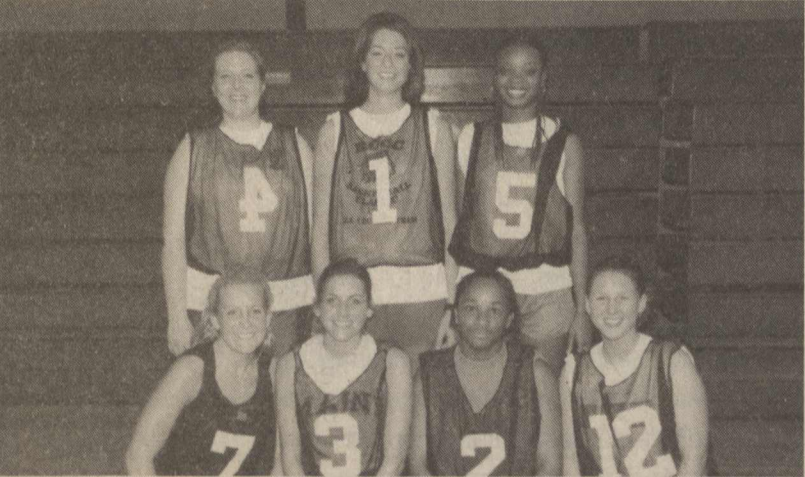
'Kobeholics' Claim Second Place

"Kobeholics" won second-place honors in the intramural men's A-league basketball competition held at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling, from left) Todd Butler of Morton, Teon Wilson of Newton and Jacob Boler of Philadelphia; and (standing, from left) Jesse Smith of Philadelphia, Lamarrio Mapp of Morton, Delwin Taylor of Sandhill and Dee Hornesburger of Noxapater.



Win Basketball Title

"Dome Crushers" recently claimed the women's intramural basketball league competition held at East Central Community College. Team members include (from left) LaToria Payton of Ludlow, Jerica Hickmon of Union, Tyeasha Denson of Ludlow, Teoneka Wallace of Union and Pendasala McClendon of Forest.

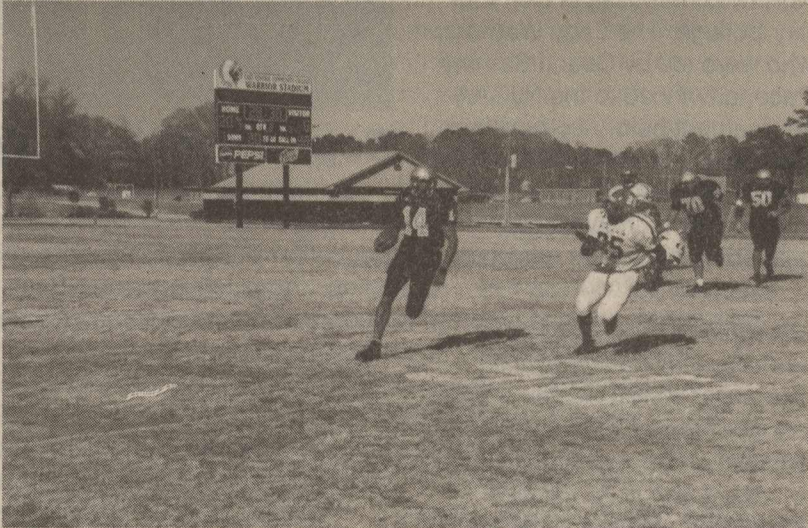


Intramural Basketball Runners-Up

The "Dixie Tricks" won second-place honors in the annual intramural women's basketball competition held at East Central Community College. Team members include (kneeling, from left) Candice Cooper and Miranda Faulk, both of Louisville; Chalunda Hudson of Philadelphia and Crystal Howell of Carthage; and (standing, from left) Lesley Taylor of Louisville and Erica Tullos and Melonie Moore, both of Philadelphia.



East Central running back (23) Germaine Smith, a product of Newton County High School, fights for yardage during the Warriors' 26-13 victory over East Mississippi in the spring game.



Warrior quarterback (14) Terrell Robinson of Palatka, Florida, turns the corner for a good gain during second-half action of East Central's 26-13 win over East Mississippi in the annual spring game. Robinson earlier scored on a 33-yard run. His 53-yard scamper also set up another tally.



2002 Warrior Football Schedule			
Thurs., Sept. 5	Holmes	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 12	Northeast	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 19	Pearl River	Poplarville	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 26	Gulf Coast	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 5	Co-Lin	Wesson	3:00 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 10	Jones	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 19	Hinds (HC)	Decatur	2:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 26	Northwest	Senatobia	1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 31	Southwest	Summit	7:00 p.m.
(Dates and times are tentative)			



Warrior quarterback (15) Kevin Stephens of Troy, Ala., is stopped after a nice gain by an unidentified East Mississippi defender during the Warriors' 26-13 decision over the visiting Lions in the spring game.



Running back Ramon Williams (34) of Daphne, Ala., crosses the goal line for East Central's first score in the Warriors' 26-13 win over East Mississippi in the February 28 spring game. Williams' tally came on a six-yard run on East Central's first possession.

Warriors Receive Scholarships

Pictured at left are members of the 2001 East Central Community College football team who signed national letters of intent to continue their athletic careers at various four-year colleges and universities. The standout athletes were recognized at a reception held on National Signing Day (February 6) in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building. Signees and their respective colleges include (seated from left) defensive back Cedric Cotton of Newton County High School, Southwest Missouri State University; defensive end Keith Curry of NCHS, Nicholls State; fullback Terrance Degraffenried of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central, Tuskegee University; kicker Danny Haynes of Killen, Ala., University of Memphis; and offensive lineman Kenneth Hurt of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, Florida A&M University. Standing from left are linebacker Howard Jackson of Scott Central, Belhaven College; running back/wide receiver Marcus Lee of Forest Belhaven College; defensive lineman Johnny Jackson of Aliceville, Ala., Troy State University; wide receiver Dontay Spillman of Louisville, Kentucky, University of Louisville; running back Patrick Prince of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, University of West Georgia; and full-back Chad Warren of Quitman, Alcorn State University. Not pictured are linebacker Dwight Agee of Collins, Belhaven College; offensive lineman Chad Crowe of Leake Academy and defensive back Josh Chaney of Newton County High School, who both signed with Mississippi College; and offensive lineman Cedric McAfee of Philadelphia, Tuskegee University.

ECCC Student Athletes in the Spotlight

Name: Shaneka Cistrunk
Sport: Lady Warrior Basketball
Position: Guard
Height: 5'7"
High School: Louisville
Who or what introduced you to basketball? Nobody really. As a child, me and all the kids that lived on my block used to gather at the end of the street and play different games to pass the time away.



Shaneka Cistrunk

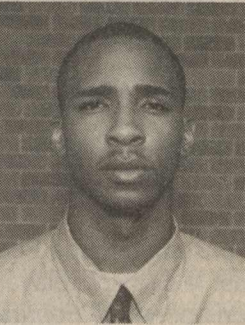
What age did you really start to love the game? 13
Where did you like playing the most? This boy around the corner from my house had a goal in front of his house and I used to go play there.
Who was your favorite player? Michael Jordan. I thought that he was really cute and he was very good at basketball.
Is basketball something you are doing just in college or do you plan on making it a career? I haven't really thought about it. But if I do have an opportunity to go to the league or overseas to play, I'll do it because I will then be getting paid for something that I love to do.
Have you acquired any nicknames over the years? None so far.

What is your most memorable basketball moment if you can pinpoint just one? In high school, at the district playoffs we were playing this team that we couldn't beat during the regular season. Anyway, we were down two with 10 seconds to go. I passed the ball inside and my teammate scored and we went into overtime and won.
Looking back on your high school career, how was it?
What did you accomplish? Playing and practicing hard every day paid my way to college.

Are there any memorable coaches in your career? Coach Hodges. He was my eighth grade coach. He didn't really know too much about the game, but he was not just a coach to the players, he was a true friend and was always there when anyone needed him.

If you do pursue a career in basketball, what do you plan on doing when your playing days are over? While I'm in school, I'm going to get my degree in animal science so that I'll have something to fall back on.

Name: Winfred Craig
Sport: Warrior Basketball
Position: Forward
Height: 6'5"
High School: Louisville
Who or what introduced you to basketball? Nobody, I just always liked to play basketball when I was younger.
What age did you really start to love the game? 17, my junior year in high school.



Winfred Craig

Where did you like playing the most? In my back yard.
Who was your favorite player? Michael Jordan. For the simple fact that he was and is the greatest.
Is basketball something you are doing just in college or do you plan on making it a career? I don't really think I'm going to the NBA. I'm not that good, but I do have a free education.
Have you acquired any nicknames over the years? None so far.
What is your most memorable basketball moment if you can pinpoint just one? In high school, my freshman year, we won only one game.
Looking back on your high school career, how was it?
What did you accomplish? I didn't really take advantage of it like I could and should have. Nothing off the top was accomplished now that I think of it.
Are there any memorable coaches in your career? Coach Ollie Young and Coach Jay Bowen. They were both just like fathers to me.

If you do pursue a career in basketball, what do you plan on doing when your playing days are over? I don't plan to be in the league, but I just hope to be making it in life.

Information compiled by Angelo Kirk.





Intramural Soccer Participants

These students participated in East Central Community College's intramural soccer program, led by Kenneth Thompson, College soccer coach. First row, left to right, are Ty Anderson, Decatur; Brian Zbydniowski, Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.; Nathan Stamper, Decatur; Ryan Crick and Candice Cooper, both of Louisville; Danny Haynes, Florence, Ala.; Nate Alexander, Corinth; and Brandon Ditto, Brandon. Second row, from left, are Jonathan McMillan, Louisville; Matt Stone, Philadelphia; Lisa Chamblee, Carthage; David Burt, Newton; Jacob Pierce, Decatur; Erica Tullos, Nikki Tullos, Carrie Cumberland and Stephanie Davis, all of Philadelphia; and Aimee McLaurin, Pulaski. Standing from left are Dwight Brannon, Collinsville; Braden Land, New Albany; Gardito Ruiz, Vicksburg; Corey Kemp, Corinth; Seltue Karweaye, Liberia, West Africa; Derek Dunn, Philadelphia; Billy Brake, Florence; Jonathan Jackson, Conehatta; Caleb May, Philadelphia; Jonathan Shoemaker, Decatur; Kyle Miller, Preston; Charlie Goodwin, Morton; and Justin Sendelweck, Brandon. Not pictured are Sam Allen, Jennie Battle and Rhonda Munn, all of Philadelphia, and Tori Tijerina, Newton.



ECCC Intramural Soccer Champions

"Whippets" won top honors in the intramural soccer competition held at East Central Community College. Team members are (from left) Seltue Karewaye of Liberia, West Africa; Jonathan Shoemaker, Decatur; Justin Sendelweck, Brandon; Candice Cooper, Louisville; Nathan Stamper, Decatur; and Kyle Miller, Preston.



ECCC Intramural Soccer Runners-Up

"The 69'ers" placed second in the intramural soccer competition held at East Central Community College. Team members are (seated from left) Derek Dunn of Philadelphia and Gardito Ruiz of Vicksburg, and (standing from left) Billy Brake of Florence, Stephanie Davis of Philadelphia, Ty Anderson of Decatur and Ryan Crick of Louisville.



Guest Speaker

Dr. Rex Alman, former director of Weems Mental Health Center, was a recent guest speaker at East Central Community College and spoke on the topic, "Life Is A Journey," during a program sponsored by the College's Student Health Center. Alman stressed the importance of "communication" between couples, citing the lack thereof as the number one reason for divorce. He stated the divorce rate in Lauderdale County is a staggering 67 percent. He also provided students with tips on how to present themselves during job interviews. Dr. Alman is shown prior to his presentation with Gloria Rigdon, College nurse.



Theta Xi Captures Regional Awards

Twenty-four members of East Central Community College's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the International Honor Society of the Two-Year College, recently attended the Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Convention held in Vicksburg where they were presented various awards. Sophomore Lana Rogers of Carthage was inducted into the prestigious Order of the Golden Key and chapter honors included the Leadership Hallmark Award and the Most Outstanding Chapter Award. Theta Xi was also elected regional president for 2002-03 and former advisor and retired ECCC head librarian Ann Burkes was named 2002 Outstanding Alumna for the MS/LA Region. Those attending included (first row, from left) Victoria Daniels and April McAdory, both of Philadelphia; Lana Rogers of Walnut Grove, Jessica McMahon of Carthage, Marie Griffith of Hickory and Christy Ferguson, advisor; (second row, from left) Rebecca Germany of Union, Odena Cox of Decatur, Tammy Faulkner of Morton and Amanda Lathem of Sebastopol; (third row, from left) Chuck Wood of Louisville, Lance Hall and Adam Wall, both of Forest; and Tom Clark of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Daniel Pearce, Jason Guraedy and Matt Davis, all of Decatur; and Dr. Shelby Harris, advisor. Not pictured are Stephan Sykes of Lawrence, Jimmy Hall of Lena, Ashley Jones of Newton, Jennifer Savell of Lake and Jonathan Jackson of Conehatta.

'Ghetto' hairstyles all the rage this year

Information and photos compiled by Ardria Harris and Shaletha Wade

There was a time when hair styles depended on how long a young lady had let her hair grow and what was currently in fashion. Today things are different. It is now possible to have extra hair woven into natural hair or to add extra hair pieces which are attached to combs and can be easily removed.

The current rage on the East Central campus, especially among the African-American females is a style known as "Ghetto." Now, we all know

what a ghetto is, but the "Ghetto Style" is something quite different. It is first of all a way of expressing individuality. It also allows for a great deal of self-expression. "Ghetto" can be high hair, layered hair, flips and curls or hair adorned with beads and spangles.

Places to have one's hair styled were once known simply as beauty shops. Trendy shops now carry such names as "Hair Explosion," "Clipping and Snipping," "The Hair Extension Shop

No. 1 and 2," and they have such mottos as "If your hair is not becoming to you, then you should be coming to us."

Hair tinted, like Joseph's coat of many colors, can now be seen on campus. Hair lacquered green, blue, yellow and red is all the rage and adds sparkle to the many hairstyles now seen.

So, the next time you pass a student with an unusual hair style just remember that she is expressing her own individual personality. She is making a

statement about her personality, her likes and dislikes and her outlook on life. She is saying, "This is me. I am who I am."

It is interesting and fun to observe all the different hairstyles. The "Ghetto" hairstyle has added some variety, color and interest to the 2001-2002 school year at East Central. Who knows what the next school year will bring?

Below are some of this year's styles.



"Done Done It"
Layered Ponytail with Bangs
Charmain Jones
Philadelphia



"Cornroll Lucious"
Highlighted Braid Going to the Back with Zig Zags
Keisha Burnside
Philadelphia



"G-H-E-T-T-O GURL"
Braids
Krystal Moore
Philadelphia



"Country Gal"
Curls and More Curls
Renarda Gilbert
Lena



"Plain Jane"
Smooth Ponytail
Adrienne Flowers
Carthage



Queen of all Ghetto Hair
"Rainbow Thug"
Greenish Paint in Front with Blue and Black Throughout With Flips and Curls
Claudia Patrick
Sebastopol



Dean Honored For Service

Pat Dean of Little Rock was recently honored for her years of service at East Central Community College. Dean served since 1998 as a clerk in the Business Office. She resigned her position to pursue other interests.

Calendar of Events

March	
21	"Domestic Violence" Lecture Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium
25	Presidents Council Meeting Vincent Administration Building
26	Spring Band Concert Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium Business, Education and Healthcare Expo Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium
27-28	"Senior Days"
29	"Good Friday" Holiday
April	
4-6	Spring Musical "Footloose" Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium
9	"Be Our Guest" Baseball Game/Crawfish Boil Chris Gay IV Field Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium
15	Advance Registration Begins for Fall Semester
16	Fellowship of Christian Athletes Crusade Huff Auditorium
22	Blood Drive Blood Mobile on the Mall Collegians Campus Concert Huff Auditorium
22-25	"Spring Spree" Week
25	"Spring Spree Games and Formal
26	Last Day to Drop a Course With a "W"
29	Presidents Council Meeting
30	Ac'cents Spring Campus Concert Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium
May	
2	Awards Day Huff Auditorium
3	Last Day of Regular Classes
6-9	Final Exams
10	Graduation Warrior Stadium



Teacher Spotlight: Dr. Linda Lane

Hometown: Jackson (Born in Hattiesburg)
Education: BA from Millsaps, MA from Louisiana State University and Doctorate from Middlebury College in Vermont
Years at EC: 3
What inspired you to teach foreign languages? I love foreign language and I love to watch students speak another language.
Where did you teach before East Central? Mississippi University for Women in Columbus and University of Mobile (Alabama)
What languages do you speak? English, Spanish and French
Was it hard to learn Spanish? It wasn't hard for me to learn Spanish, but French, which was the first foreign language I learned, was more difficult.
Do you enjoy teaching at East Central? Yes. I have good students. They range in age from 18 to 60 and they have many different interests and educational backgrounds.
Have you been to any other parts of the world? Spain, Mexico, Nicaragua and Canada. I also spent a year living in Paris, France.

Information compiled by Shaletha Wade



Selected to MACJC All-State Band
These members of the Wall O' Sound Band were recently selected to participate in the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges All-State Band. Pictured are (seated from left) Jennifer Savell of Newton County High School and April McAdory of Neshoba Central; and (standing, from left) Andy Murphy of Southeast Lauderdale, Chris Carson and Damein Wash, both of Newton County; Adam McAdory of Louisville and Anthony Barfield of Neshoba Central. The All-State band festival was held at Mississippi State University during the month of January. This was the largest number of students ever selected from ECCC and first chair honors went to Carson and Barfield.



Lady Warrior Tennis Team
Above are members of the East Central Community women's tennis team for the 2002 campaign. In front, from left, are Brandi Bounds of DeKalb and Jennifer Emmons of Forest. Back row, from left, are Tori Tijerina of Newton, Carrie Shrock and Nikki Tullos, both of Philadelphia, and Coach Brad Hodge. Not pictured is Katy Bourland of Louisville.

ECCC band members receive national honors

East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Band members Anthony Barfield of Neshoba Central, percussionist Andy Murphy of Southeast Lauderdale and clarinetist Damein Wash of Newton County High School were recently selected to participate in the College Band Directors' National Association Honor Band. ECCC Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson said, "I was thrilled to have three students participating in this very prestigious ensemble. My students were the only band members selected from a community college and they were also the

only students selected from the state of Mississippi. "Many members of the honor band, consisting mostly of upper class performance majors, were surprised that a small, rural community college in Mississippi had such a diverse and large band program." The honor band met during the association's Southern Division Conference, which was held this year in Atlanta, Georgia February 20-23. After two days of rehearsals, the band concluded the conference with a concert.



Honor Band members (pictured from left) Andy Murphy of Southeast Lauderdale, Damein Wash of Newton County and Anthony Barfield of Neshoba Central.

ECCC PLAYERS PRESENT

"FOOTLOOSE"

APRIL 11-13

OVID S. VICKERS FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM
SHOW TIME IS 7 O'CLOCK EACH EVENING
TICKETS ARE \$10

FOR TICKET INFORMATION CONTACT THE
COLLEGE SWITCHBOARD AT 635-2111, EXT. 215

Learning Skills Center

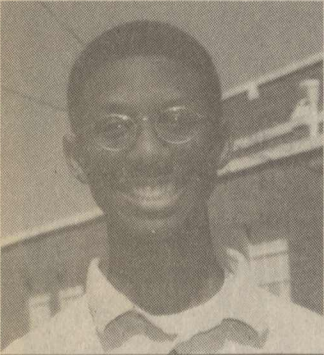
Need a Little Extra Help?
Come to the Learning Skills Center!
Free Tutoring Available!

NEWTON HALL ROOM 112
Monday-Tuesday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

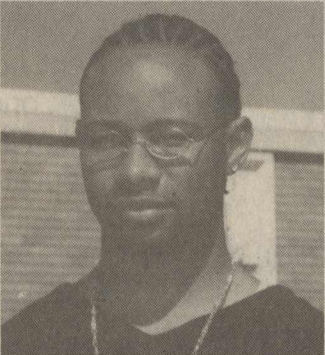
For more information contact
Mary Hanson at 635-2111, ext. 329

What did you do for "SpringBreak?"

Information and photos compiled by Kathy Jones and Heather Brantley



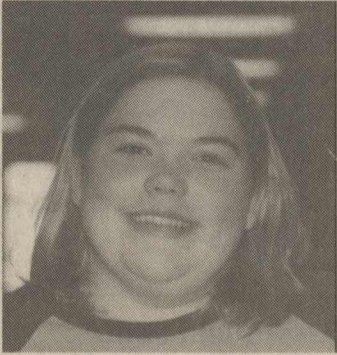
"Worked, practiced trombone and went to church."
Anthony Barfield



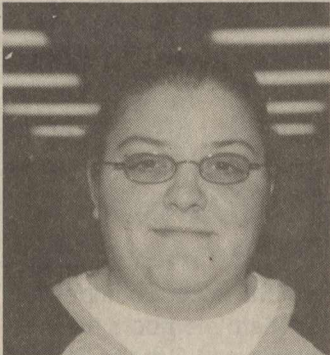
"Went to Pensacola, Florida, and to the beach everyday."
Jason Richardson



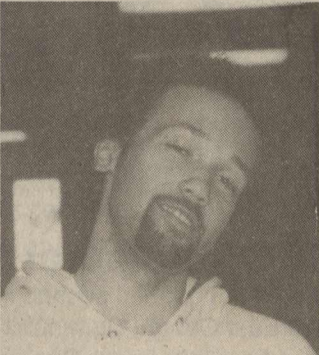
"I went to Foley on a shopping spree."
Lesley Taylor



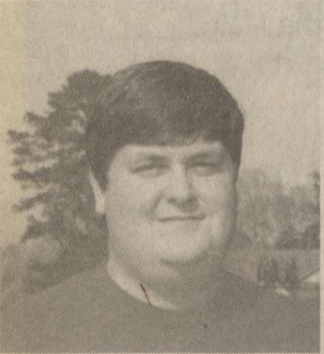
"I worked and went on a road trip."
Shellie Keyes



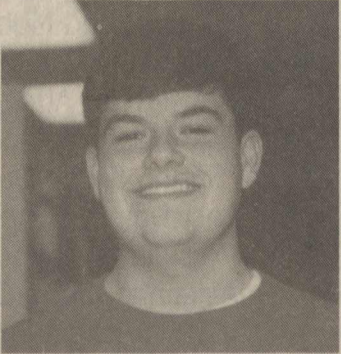
"Went to the coast."
Nichole Collins



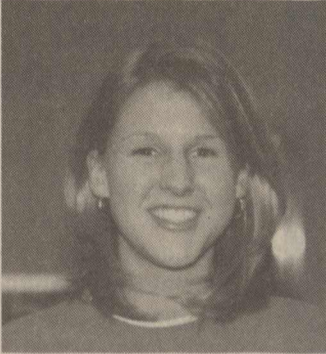
"Attended a bar-b-que and chilled"
Sammy Gray



"Worked at home in Starkville."
Kirk Misso



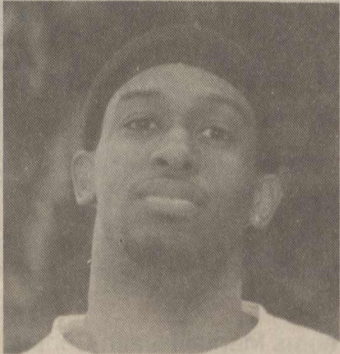
"Worked on my organic chemistry lab book."
George Edwards



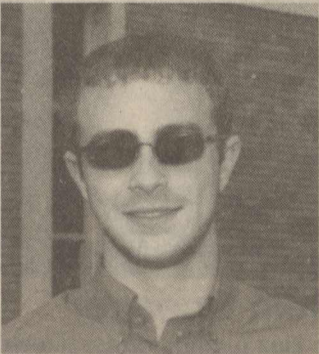
"Participated in the Leake County 4-wheeler ride and worked on organic chemistry."
Crystal Howell



"Worked."
Nikki Stribling



"Went to England."
Donzel Crenshaw



"Went to my cabin for the week."
Matt Hedrick

Mississippi Museum of Art presents sixth in Annie Laurie Swaim Hearin Memorial Exhibition Series

Passionate Observer: Eudora Welty among Artists of the Thirties

The Mississippi Museum of Art cordially invites the public to come celebrate the rich photographic heritage of one of Mississippi's most cherished writers, Eudora Welty. On view from April 6 to June 30, 2002, *Passionate Observer: Eudora Welty among Artists of the Thirties* offers a compelling gview of the nation during the Great Depression, as seen through the lens of one of America's most cherished writers, Eudora Welty, and the visions of other notable artists and photographers of the 1930s.

Welty captures in her photographs what she so eloquently reveals in her prose: the complexity and dignity of the human condition. Her work explores the people of Mississippi, New York and New Orleans through scenes from every day life that have changed or vanished forever.

"Welty always referred to her photographs as 'snapshots,'" says Betsy Bradley, MMA Director. "She valued the unpredictability of the moment. Welty's pictures capture the courage and energy of the American people during this pivotal era. Like her novels, her photographs reveal that life, for her, was profound and passionate.

And she depicts her subjects with truth and honesty," adds Bradley.

The exhibition provides an interesting comparison between Welty's artistic interpretation and other visual records of the times. During the Great Depression, the people of America suffered severe hardships and privations. Yet the spirit of the times was genuinely heroic and some of the artists, many working for the Federal Works Progress Administration and the Farm Securities Administration, captured it with true grandeur. One of these was a young Southern writer, Eudora Welty. This innovative exhibition positions Welty's photographs with works by American artists from across the country. Paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints and photographs from the era are presented together with her photographs.

Southern artists Walter Anderson, William Hollingsworth, Marie Hull and Karl Wolfe are included in the exhibition. Outstanding photographers Walker Evans, Berenice Abbott, Margaret Bourke-White, Dorothea Lange and national artists Thomas Hart Benton, Edward Hopper, Grant Wood and many more are featured in this

groundbreaking show. The exhibition is organized by Patti Carr Black, former director of the Old Captiol Museum of Mississippi History and author of *Art in Mississippi: 1720-1980*, and Rene Paul Barilleaux, MMA Deputy Director for Programs. Special consultant to the project is Suzanne Marrs, professor at Millsaps College and noted Welty scholar.

An illustrated publication, produced by the MMA, documents the project. In addition, a gallery guide and teachers' material aid the general public and students in gaining a deeper appreciation of the works on exhibit. A wide range of educational programs are planned to assist the Museum's audience in understanding the connections between American artists and writers from the early decades of the twentieth century, including an audio tour. Additional programs place Southern artists within the larger national context of American art and developments such as regionalism, social realism and the New Deal.

For more information about the exhibition or group tour arrangements, contact the Mississippi Museum of Art at 601-960-1515, or visit our web site at www.msmuseumart.org.



Making plans for the first annual ECCC Warrior Golf Classic, scheduled for Saturday, June 22, 2002, at the Dancing Rabbit Golf Club are committee members (seated from left) Stacey Hollingsworth, administrative assistant in the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations; Wayne Ledford of Decatur; Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, Alumni Association president; and Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, vice president for instruction; and (standing from left) Steve Quinn of Louisville, Alumni Association vice president; Coach Willie "Tenny" Coats of Decatur; Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president; Joe Killens, vice president for student services; Haywood Reeves of Forest; and Chris Collins of Union, Alumni Association representative for Newton County.

ECCC Warrior Golf Classic Set June 22 At Dancing Rabbit

Alumni and friends of East Central Community College will be "teeing it up for scholarships" when the first annual ECCC Warrior Golf Classic takes place on Saturday, June 22, 2002, at the award-winning Dancing Rabbit Golf Club on the Pearl River Resort near Philadelphia.

A shotgun start at 9 a.m. will officially begin the four-person scramble, scheduled on the Azalea course. Entry fee is \$125 per person, which includes green fee, golf cart, tournament T-shirt, a box lunch and the opportunity to win various door prizes. In addition, the keys to a new vehicle will be presented by Mark Killens of Killens' Chevrolet, Oldsmobile and Pontiac, Inc. in Newton, to the first golfer who scores a hole-in-one on a hole yet to be determined. A reception for sponsors and tournament participants concludes the day's activities. Corporate sponsorships are available on the following levels: Gold - \$650 (includes fees for one team and

hole sponsorship with company name prominently displayed); Silver - \$400 (includes fees for two golfers and hole sponsorship with company name prominently displayed); Hole Sponsor - \$200 (one hole sponsorship with company or individual name prominently displayed); and T-Shirt Sponsor - \$100 (company name listed on tournament T-shirt). All sponsors will also be listed in the spring issue of *The Warrior*, East Central's alumni magazine, which is mailed to 8000 alumni and friends of the College.

Dayna Morgan of Philadelphia, president of the ECCC Alumni Association, is anticipating a lot of support for the first-time event.

"The Alumni Association wanted to help raise funds for scholarships, and we thought that a golf tournament would be an ideal way to do that. There are many ECCC alumni who play golf and we are counting on great participation, especially

since the tournament is being held on one of the best courses in the country. The tournament is also a great way for ECCC alumni to get together and renew friendships," Morgan said.

Among the first sponsors to sign up include Killens' Chevrolet, Oldsmobile and Pontiac, Inc., in Newton; Vowell's Market Place in Louisville; La-Z-Boy South in Newton; Newton County Bank; and Valley Innovative Services, Inc.

The Dancing Rabbit Golf Club was named one of the top 75 courses in the country by *Golf Digest*. Over the past several years, the Dancing Rabbit course has received several awards, including *Golf Digest's* "Top 10 New Courses in America" list in 1998, *Golf Magazine's* "Top 100 You Can Play" list, *Gold and Travel* magazine's "Top 40 Resorts" list and *Golf-week's*

Smithsonian honors ECCC faculty member

An instructional kit written by East Central Community College English instructor Melinda Smith of Union for the local showing of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Home Front, 1941-45, is being adopted for use by state councils, school systems and other venues throughout the United States.

Carol Harsh, project director with the Smithsonian Institute, recently notified Smith that her instructional kit is being sent to approximately 40 exhibition sites in Tennessee, Louisiana, Missouri, Kansas and North Dakota.

In an email message to Smith, Harsh stated: "Your instructional kit is of particular interest because, as in Decatur, there are small towns across the

country that are developing programs and educational events to coincide with the Smithsonian exhibition in their communities. Your work will be of great assistance for teachers in these towns as they prepare to teach about the World War II home front. Thanks again for your hard work on behalf of Produce for Victory."

Smith said she is pleased the Smithsonian liked her work.

"I was really surprised-but obviously pleased-that the Smithsonian was interested in the instructional kit we had put together. I wrote the kits for the College and was glad to be of assistance for the Exhibit," she said.

East Central Community College was selected the first site in Mississippi and the only community college to host the

traveling exhibition, which was housed in the College's Associate Degree Nursing/Child Development Technology Building September 28 through November 1. The exhibit included a series of posters that were used to display various messages in the United States during the World War II period. Area veterans also provided memorabilia for the display.

The National Museum of American History, The Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES) and the Mississippi Humanities Council organized the exhibit.

Tommy Thrash, social science instructor and Chairman of the ECCC Division of Social Science, Education and Business, served as event coordinator.

Learning Skills Center

Need a Little Extra Help?

Come to the Learning Skills Center!

Free Tutoring Available!

NEWTON HALL ROOM 112

Monday-Tuesday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information contact

Mary Hanson at 635-2111, ext. 329

2002 Warrior Golf Schedule

Date	Golf Course	Location	Host
Monday, March 19	Northwood	Meridian	Meridian
Tuesday, March 20	Pine Belt	Hattiesburg	Jones
Monday, April 1	Big Oaks	Tupelo	Itawamaba
Tuesday, April 2	Hillendale	Corinth	Northeast
Tuesday, April 9	Wolf Hollow	Wesson	Co-lin
Wednesday, April 10	Eagle Ridge	Raymond	Hinds
Monday, April 15	TBA (Pearl River and MS Gulf Coast)		
Tuesday, April 16	TBA (Pearl River and MS Gulf Coast)		
Wednesday, April 17	TBA (Pearl River and MS Gulf Coast)		
State And Region Tournament			
Tues.-Wed. April 23-24	Northwood	Meridian	

Date	Opponet	Location	Time
Wed., Aug. 28	East Mississippi	Away	4:00
Sat., Aug. 31	Mississippi Delta	Home	1:00
Tues., Sept. 3	Jones (non-division)	Away	4:00
Sat., Sept. 7	Open		
Wed., Sept. 11	Hinds	Away	8:00
Sat., Sept. 14	Itawamba	Home	1:00
Tues., Sept. 17	Jones*	Home	5:00
Sat., Sept. 21	Pearl River*	Away	1:00
Wed., Sept. 25	Meridian*	Away	7:00
Sat., Sept. 28	Co-Lin*	Home	11:00
Tues., Oct. 1	Gulf Coast*	Away	7:00
Sat., Oct. 5	East Mississippi	Home	11:00
Wed., Oct. 9	Mississippi Delta	Away	4:00
Sat., Oct. 12	Holmes	Home	11:00
Tues., Oct. 15	Jones*	Away	2:00
Sat., Oct. 19	Pearl River*	Home	10:00
Wed., Oct. 23	Meridian*	Home	4:30
Sat., Oct. 26	Co-Lin*	Away	11:00
Tues., Oct. 29	Gulf Coast*	Home	4:30
Sat., Nov. 2	State Semifinals	South Women Host	TBA
		#1 South vs #2 North	
		#2 South vs #1 North	
Sun., Nov. 3	State Finals	Winner match #1 vs winner match #2	

*Denotes South Division Opponent

Date	Opponent	Place	Time
Tues., March 5	Holmes	Goodman	2:00 p.m.
Tues., March 19	Jones	Ellisville	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., March 21	Hinds	Decatur	2:00 p.m.
Tues., March 26	Hinds	Raymond	2:00 p.m.
Thurs., March 28	Southwest	Decatur	1:00 p.m.
Tues., April 2	Holmes	Decatur	2:00 p.m.
Tues., April 9	Itawamba	MUW	1:30 p.m.
Fri., April 12	Co-lin	Decatur	10:00 a.m.
Sat., April 13	Pearl River	Decatur	10:00 a.m.
Mon., April 15	Southwest	Summit	12:00 p.m.
	Co-lin	Wesson	4:00 p.m.
Wed., April 17	Jones	Decatur	2:00 p.m.
Fri.-Sun., April 19-21	Women's State Tournament		TBA
	Hattiesburg		
	(Seeding 6 p.m. Thursday)		
Fri.-Sun., April 26-28	Men's State Tournment		TBA
	Meridain		
	(Seeding 6 p.m. Thursday)		

First-Year ECCC Basketball Coaches Reflect on 2001-02 Season

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors made a return trip to the Region 23 Tournament to defend their title, and the Warriors won six of their remaining 10 games and barely missed qualifying the state tournament.

These are just some of the highlights of the 2001-02 campaign, as cited by first-year head coaches Brad Hodge and Billy Smith.

Hodge, who served two years as an assistant to long-time Lady Warrior head coach Sammy Pace prior to assuming his new assignment, was basically pleased with his team's performance.

Overall, this was a great year. We met many of our pre-season goals by having a winning season, reaching the state tournament and qualifying for the region tournament. Obviously, any coach or player would have liked to advance further in the playoffs, but we just were not as fortunate this season," Hodge said.

The Lady Warriors finished 14-11 overall and were 7-5 in the South Division, notching the team's fourteenth-straight winning season. East Central also made its fourteenth appearance in the Region 23 Tournament, won by last year's squad.

Hodge noted several other highlights of the recently completed campaign.

"We had a six-game winning streak before the Christmas break, defeated eventual state and region tournament champion Copiah-Lincoln at home for the first time in several years, and we upset Northeast - the North champion - in the state tournament," he said.

Hodge also had praise for his Lady Warriors, who began the season under new leadership. "This team overcame a tremendous amount of adversity this season. I gained a tremendous amount of respect for each player on this team. They were the most coachable group of players I have ever worked with, and I mean that sincerely. There was a lot of uncertainty they had to face with me as a new head coach, and they were very receptive. We had several highlights that we can reflect on and be very satisfied with the results," he stated.

The Lady Warriors were led by sophomore Nikki LaCour, who garnered first-team All-Region and All-State honors, and is a strong candidate for All-American accolades. LaCour, a product of Natchitoches (La.) Central High School, averaged 19.3 points per game. Christina Ford of Enterprise was named second team All-State and Lori Cumberland of Leake Academy was selected on the honorable mention team.

On a personal note, Hodge described his inaugural season at the helm as a "fun year."

He further commented, "I have gained a tremendous amount of confidence in doing what I believe in and sticking to it. We did that and were successful in the process. I truly loved coaching these ladies. Sometimes the hardest thing for me to do was to let them out of practice. I never enjoyed teaching so much during practice until this year. I am very fortunate to be here at East Central and that my superiors believe in the job that we are doing," Hodge stated.

He also had praise for assistant Toby Bush, who came to East Central after serving as head student manager at the University of Memphis.

"A lot of the success we had this season is a direct result of the work of Coach Bush. He is a tremendous asset to me and to this team. Toby has a great eye for basketball and is a very good teacher of the game. He is also a very hard worker who can evaluate talent with the best of

them. I am very pleased to have Toby on my staff," Hodge said.

In looking toward next year, Hodge said "a solid foundation" has been laid for continued success.

"With the returnees we have and what we feel is an excellent recruiting class, we should have another successful season next year. I am extremely excited about the direction we are going. Also, I feel confident of what I need to do to get better as a head coach to make the players that we bring in next season more prepared to compete for the state and regional championships," he said.

Smith was named head coach following the departure of Jay Bowen, who left the squad in late summer to become an assistant at Austin Peay State University.



Billy Smith

Prior to joining the East Central staff, Smith served 16 years as girls' head basketball coach at Neshoba Central High School, where his teams amassed a 388-151 mark, which included a state title and six district championships.

Smith, who guided the Warriors to a 10-12 overall mark and a 5-7 slate in division competition, was upbeat about his

team's performance, "I thought we had a pretty successful year considering the timing of me getting here so so late. I thought the team did a good job of accepting our system. I thought we improved a lot as the season progressed. We ended up winning six of our last 10 games, which I thought was real good. We'll losing some good sophomores but we look forward to getting ready for next year," Smith said.

The Warriors were led by freshman Corey Hornsby, who was named first team All-State. Hornsby is a product of Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge, LA. James Denson of Choctaw Central was named second team All-State.

Shane Eck served as Smith's assistant. Coach Eck came to East Central after serving in various capacities at Clarion University of Pennsylvania.

25th Annual
MACJC
All-Star
Basketball
Games
April 4
Choctaw Central
High School
Philadelphia, MS
Women 6 p.m
Men 8 p.m.

CLARK (continued from page 1)

fence, next to a sign calling attention to the 1998 state title. Yarborough presented Audrey with the white jersey Jamie wore during the 2001 season.

Yarborough concluded his remarks with the following statement: "Although Coach Clark is no longer with us, he will always be remembered in the place he called 'Warriorville.'"

Audrey threw a perfect strike to catcher Joey Holcomb of Trafford, Ala., for the ceremonial first pitch, and received a hug from starting pitcher Jason Wooten of Lake. The Diamond Warriors lost the first game by a 4-3 score and fell 8-1 in the nightcap.

Also participating in the ded-



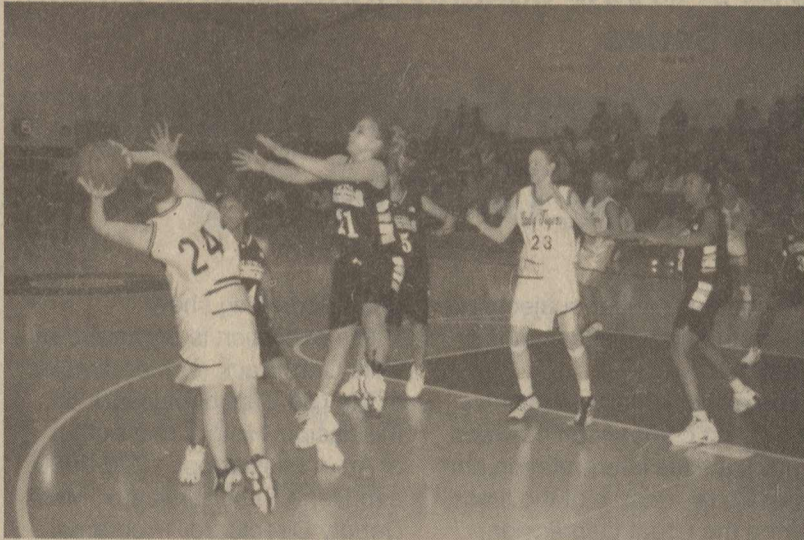
A large crowd gathered for the dedication program, honoring the late Jamie Clark.



Larry Blackburn delivers a personal message about his longtime friend.



Audrey gets a hug from starting pitcher Jason Wooten of Lake.



Lady Warrior Lori Cumberland (21) applies defensive pressure to North-east's Mica Browning (24) in first-round action of the state tournament. East Central upset the top-seeded Lady Tigers 70-67 and advanced to the semi-finals where they lost to Southwest 62-53. The Lady Warriors concluded season play by falling to Meridian Community College in first-round action of the Region 23 Tournament.



James Denson slam dunks against Hinds in the season finale. The Choctaw Central product was named second team All-State following the Warriors' 10-12 season.

plus we're going to try to cover the bleachers with a metal top. One of the main things is that we're going to brick from dugout to dugout about eight inches high. That was something that Jamie always wanted. We've already got the brick donated."

Harrison said contributions to help fund the projects may be sent to The Warrior Club, East Central Community College, P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327.

Clark served 14 years as head coach of the Diamond Warriors, compiling an overall 365-301-1 record. He was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor prior to the start of the 2001 campaign. He still managed to

attend most of the games throughout the season, although weakened by chemotherapy and radiation treatments. He was 49 when he died on July 18 at his Decatur home.

He was a graduate of West Point High School and Delta State University.

In addition to his wife and daughter, survivors include stepsons, Billy Turner of Slidell, LA; Kevin Turner of Austin, Texas; and Daniel Turner of Cleveland; and three grandchildren.

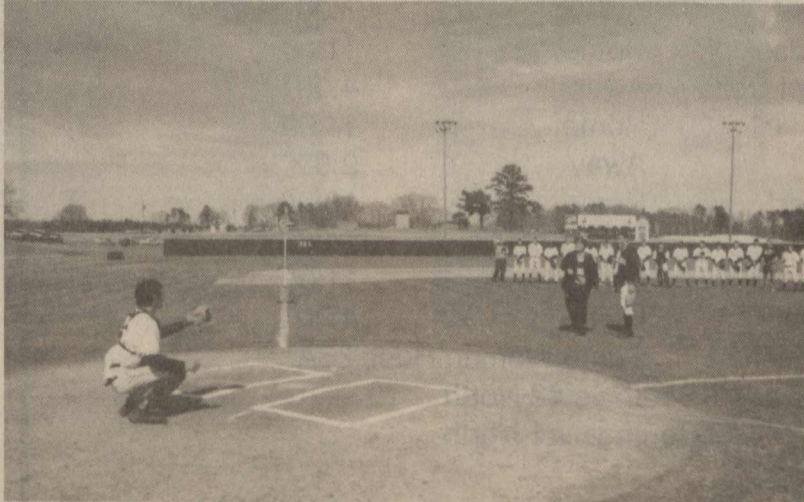
(Meridian Star reporter Marty Stamper contributed to this report.)



ECCC president Dr. Phil A. Sutphin provided remarks.



The Ac'cents, East Central's show choir, perform the national anthem.



Audrey delivers the ceremonial first pitch to begin East Central's home opener with East Mississippi.

Campus Daily Doings

On March 5, 2002, East Central Community College and especially its athletic programs lost one of the college's greatest supporters when Homer Hunter passed away. During the first 54 years of East Central's existence, Mr. Hunter missed only four football games. He missed one basketball game this year, and he would have been there had he not been in intensive care at Anderson's Hospital. Mr. Hunter was the father of long time East Central librarian Ann Burkes.

Let's try to help the East Central maintenance department keep the campus clean. When students empty ash trays beside their parked vehicles or when bags of half eaten food from some quick shop are not placed in receptacles, it only increases the work of an already busy maintenance crew. So, let's take more pride in the appearance of our campus and do our part to keep it clean.

Several members of the current Mississippi Legislature either attended East Central or have family connections to the college. These include: Sen. Gloria Williamson who represents Neshoba, Winston, Leake and Choctaw counties; Sen. Terry Burton who represents Lauderdale, Newton and Scott counties; Rep. Bennett Malone who represents Leake, Neshoba, Rankin and Scott counties; Rep. Billy Nicholson who represents Newton, Neshoba, Scott and Kemper counteies; Rep. David Livingston who represents Scott, Rankin and Smith counties; Rep. Mike Eakes who represents Neshoba County; and Rep. Bobby Moody who represents Winston County.

The big question is: What is being constructed over the above-ground gas lines on the front campus? Is it a band-stand? Is it an observation deck? Is it a summer house? Is it a quiet retreat where Dr. Sutphin can go when he needs a place to get away from it all; or is it a stage for outdoor performances?

Little known fact: Dr. William D. McCain, president of the University of Southern Mississippi from 1955-1975, was a member of the faculty at East Central Junior College during the 1930s.

Both the men's and women's basketball teams wound up the season with a year of round ball that exhibited great effort, team spirit, outstanding sportsmanship and continued improvement. Congratulations are in order for both teams and coaches.

All the East Central family and former students who participated in the recent dedication of Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium made this day very special for the Clark family as well as Coach Clark's former players and the many baseball fans in attendance.

Hats off to the Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa for having been chosen the most outstanding chapter in the Mississippi/Louisiana Region. Dr. Shelby Harris and Mrs. Christy Ferguson who sponsor the organization and all the Phi Theta Kappa members are continuing a tradition of excellence which has characterized Theta Xi for many years. If you have never stopped by the chapter room in the library, do so. You'll be amazed at the awards won by this chapter over the years.

In a few short weeks, the semester will come to an end and various performing groups on campus will present their end-of-the-year programs. The choir, band, Ac'cents, and the East Central Players will all present programs. The art department will also hang an exhibit of student work. Plan to attend. You will not be disappointed. East Central has excellent music drama and art programs.



The Tom Tom

Volume 55, Number 6

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

May 2002

Six named to the ECCC Hall of Fame

East Central Community College recently observed its annual "Awards Day" program, where numerous students were honored, including six who were inducted into the College's Hall of Fame, the highest honor a student can achieve at ECCC. To be considered for this honor, recipients "must demonstrate exemplary character, superior scholarship, worthy leadership and contribute to the betterment of East Central Community College," according to Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, College president.

Those selected for the prestigious honor for 2001-2002 include Josh Chaney of Little Rock, Matt Davis of Decatur, Jessica Eakes of Philadelphia, Megan Morrison of Edinburg, Andy Murphy of Meridian and Lana Rogers of Walnut Grove. Chaney is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, the Warrior football and baseball teams and the Baptist Student Union.

He was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges and was recognized as a President's List scholar. He received the Academic Award and the Warrior Award during the annual football awards banquet and was named to the Honorable Mention All-State Team.

One of those nominating Chaney for this honor wrote, "He is a young man with a high moral standard, tireless work ethic and an impeccable character. He has excelled in the classroom and on the athletic fields. He is an example of what every student-athlete should strive to be."

A graduate of Newton County High School, he is the son of Rickey and Brenda Chaney of Little Rock.

Davis is a member of the Warrior Corps and the

Presidents Council. He serves as vice president for service of Phi Theta Kappa, president of Alpha Alpha Epsilon engineering club and reporter of Mu Alpha Theta mathematics club.

He is a member of the Wall O' Sound Marching Band and the Concert and Jazz bands. Davis serves as a volunteer for the Mississippi Reads program and is chairman of the Adopt-A-Highway clean-up program. He was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges and was recognized as a President's List scholar. He was named to the Phi Theta Kappa All Mississippi Academic First Team and was selected HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day: Working Toward Academic Excellence) Student of the Year. Davis received the Danny R. Killens Freshman Engineering Award, the freshman chemistry award and the L.B. Simmons History Award.

One of those nominating Davis wrote, "Matt is an outstanding student who is a natural leader in the classroom and in all extra-curricular activities in which he is involved. His academic record is excellent, but beyond that, Matt motivates his peers to set and meet high goals. He is the kind of young man who will make a positive contribution to society in the future."

He is the son of Ron and Patti Davis of Decatur and a graduate of Newton County High School.

Eakes is a member of Students in Free Enterprise, Ac'cents show choir, Diamond Girls, Presidents Council and Concert Chorale.

She serves as vice president for fellowship for Phi Theta Kappa, vice president of Warrior Corps, assistant editor of the College yearbook Wo-He-Lo, and president of the sophomore class. She was selected Miss

ECCC.

She was selected for Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges and was chosen a President's List scholar.

Those who nominated her wrote, "Jessica is probably one of the most intelligent students I have had the pleasure of teaching. I have taught her four semesters and she has proven to be an excellent student. She is dedicated to East Central and very supportive in its activities. She is truly a leader and deserves this high honor."

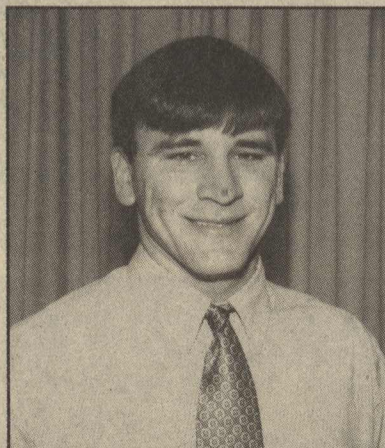
Eakes is the daughter of Robin Eakes and Richard and Aletha Eakes, all of Philadelphia. She is a graduate of Philadelphia High School.

Morrison is a member of Warrior Corps and Phi Theta Kappa. She serves as president of the ECCC Players and has participated in various drama productions including "Crimes of the Heart," "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers," "Accommodations" and "Footloose." She was named Best Actress in a Drama and received an award for Best Show Spirit for last year's productions.

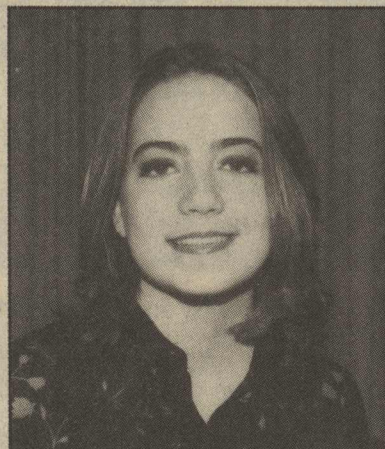
She was selected Outstanding Humanities Student for 2000-2001 and was first place winner in the 2001 poetry festival sponsored by the Mississippi Poetry Society.

A Dean's List Scholar, she was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges.

Those who nominated her wrote, "Megan Morrison is the most outstanding student that I have taught at East Central. Her general knowledge cannot be matched. She is intellectually curious, creative and highly motivated. Even when she is very busy with drama productions, she never slacks up. She has a clear



Josh Chaney



Megan Morrison

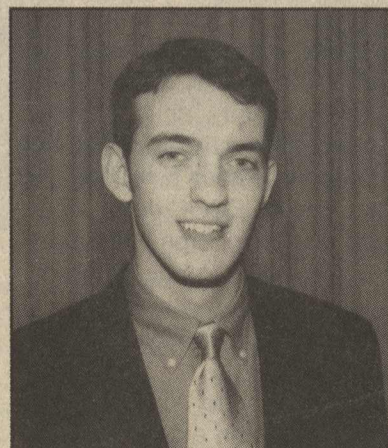
understanding of what she wants to do in life and she accepts the responsibilities that her choices entail. Megan is an achiever. She will bring honor to herself and to the institution.

A graduate of Edinburg High School, she is the daughter of William and Margie Morrison of Edinburg.

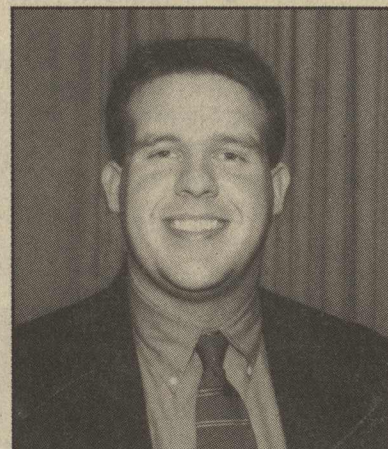
Murphy is a member of the Concert Chorale, Presidents Council, Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble and the Collegians.

He serves as president of the Student Body Association and vice president of the Concert Chorale. He serves as drum captain and was selected first chair in the concert band. He was selected a class favorite.

Murphy was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges and was named a President's List Scholar. One of those nominating Murphy wrote, "Andy's leadership qualities and his willingness to promote East Central has certainly been a



Matt Davis



Andy Murphy

positive influence on many prospective students. Although he is heavily involved in many activities on campus, Andy has maintained the high grades expected of the ECCC 'elite.' I have no doubt that Andy will continue to be a great ECCC promoter even after he moves on."

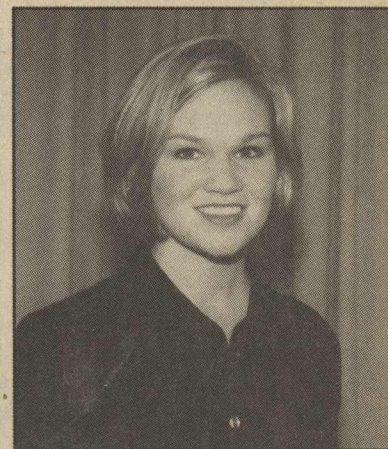
He is a graduate of Southeast Lauderdale High School and is the son of Jerry and Shirley Murphy of Meridian.

Rogers is a member of the Baptist Student Union and the Diamond Girls. She serves as president of the Warrior Corps, president of the Concert Chorale, vice president of the Presidents Council and secretary for MS/LA Region of Phi Theta Kappa. She also serves as a volunteer for the Mississippi Reads program.

She was selected to attend the Phi Theta Kappa Mini Honors Institute in Florence, Alabama, and the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Institute in Atlanta, Georgia. She was named to the MS/LA Region Phi Theta Kappa Order of the Golden Key and was named to the Phi Theta



Jessica Eakes



Lana Rogers

Kappa All Mississippi Academic Team.

Rogers is the recipient of various scholarships and was selected a freshman class favorite. During the spring musical her freshman year she received the award for Best Play Spirit. She was selected to Who's Who Among Students in American Community/Junior Colleges and was recognized as a President's List scholar.

Those nominating her wrote, "Lana is an outstanding student who is most deserving of this honor. She has maintained excellent grades while participating in numerous campus activities. She has a wonderful attitude and goes beyond what is asked of her in her academic and extra-curricular activities."

She is the daughter of Dale and Penny Rogers of Walnut Grove and is a graduate of Leake Academy.

Photographs of these students will hang in the Hall of Fame collection in the lobby of Huff Auditorium.

College students honored during annual Awards Day program

East Central Community College students were recognized for outstanding achievement during the college's annual Awards Day program held in Huff Auditorium Thursday, May 2. Various academic honors were presented as well as a number of awards for extracurricular activities.

Vocational award recipients included Sharonne Cooper of Louisville and Kenny Gomillion of Morton, cabinetmaking; Nathan Busby of Walnut Grove, carpentry; Kimberly Hull of

Meridian, cosmetology; Drew Walters of Louin and Kevin Carter of McCool, welding and cutting; Jamie Blackburn of Decatur, licensed practical nursing; and Kathleen Hogue of Walnut Grove, Vocational Student of the Year.

Recipients of technical awards were Josh Baumunk and Benstan Pope, both of Philadelphia, collision repair technology; Arron Chunn of Philadelphia, automotive technology; Willie Macon of Philadelphia, child development

technology; Gary Maisonneuve of Carthage, computer technology; Kenneth Robinson of Carthage and Kevin Pierce of Newton, electrical technology; Kevin Belk of Union, electronic technology; Malthia Jones of Newton, gerontology technology; Adam Foreman of Little Rock, heating and air conditioning technology; Chris Comans of Newton, machine shop technology; Chad Penson of Collinsville, computer network support technology; Jody Chaney of Little Rock, O.L. Newell Memo-

rial Drafting Award; Mavis Griffin of Conehatta, surgical technology; and Chris Bankston of Union, Technical Student of the Year.

Special awards were presented to Lana Rogers of Carthage, Citizenship; Allison Latham of Forest, Wo-He-Lo yearbook award and sophomore mathematics; Megan Morrison of Edinburg, ECCC Players and Alatha Chaney English; Caleb Cook of Hickory, ECCC Singers;

See Awards Day Page 3

Over 400 to receive diplomas during May 10 commencement

Diplomas will be presented to approximately 435 graduates on Friday, May 10, 2002, when East Central Community College holds its 73rd commencement exercises beginning at 8 p.m. in Warrior Stadium.

Approximately 360 students are candidates for graduation, while the remaining number represents those who completed degree requirements following the 2001 summer and fall terms, according to Dr. Lavinia Sparkman, Vice President for Instruction.

ECCC President Dr. Phil A.

Sutphin will award degrees and certificates to the following:

SUMMER AND DECEMBER 2001 GRADUATES

Brenda L. Cook, Chanteau Harris, Jennifer M. Jenkins, Lucinda L. Kea, Michelle E. Smith, Jamie L. Stewart, Matthew Perry Stribling, Timeca LyShad Wilder, all of Carthage; Stephanie Reed Ward and Joshua Woodall, both of Collinsville;

Mary Ellen Boykin and Cassidy Nickey, both of Conehatta; Michael Brand, Kasey Comans, Revonda Edmond,

Jonathan Wade McDonald, Christy Mulford, Donna G. Reynolds, Tiffany Russell and Keshia Shoemaker, all of Decatur;

Edgar Bradford, Edwit M. Epting, John Preston Foster, Veronica Jones, Lacy Anita Sharp, Jessica Victoria Smith, Mildred Jean Tucker and Tommie Lee Wells, all of Forest; Yolanda Latresa Wash, Hickory;

Betty Cagle Bermond, Kosciusko; Rachel M. Smith, Lake; Macricia Hayes, Lawrence;

Tiffany L. Bond and Billy Mart Murphree, both of Little Rock; Keneen Childress, Mandy Clark, Brandi Leigh Crowell, Anitra Frazier, Jerri Lynn Frey, Jerridean White Harrington, Talmadge Tywanis Johnson, Jamie Shotts, Amanda Stanton and Daphne Palmes Vick, all of Louisville;

Crystal Arnault, McCool; Dottie Binkley, Fredrick Knighten, Sharon Nash and Shelia Trussell, all of Meridian; Jimmie Lyn Harrison, Brandy Mills, Nicky S. Nichols, Benjamin Casie Page, Kimberly L.

Rose and Andrea Smith, all of Newton;

Terry Wayne Jordan and Thomas Edward Kittrell, both of Pachuta;

Carol Barrett, Shirley Martin Berg, Christen J. Boler, Sonya Davis, Tracy Lindsey, Courtney D. Smith, Valeria B. Stribling, and Charles Allen Willis, all of Philadelphia;

Robert D. Humphrey, Quitman; Marsha C. Sawyer, Raleigh; Jason Randall Gardner, Sebastopol; Shameka Bailey, Ellen Skinner

Harrison and Mary Diane Johnson, all of Union;

Jodie Farve, Walnut Grove; Jerry Spencer, Eagle Springs, NC;

Sidney Brooks Hamilton, Angleton, TX; and Herbert J. Montgomery, Columbus, GA.

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION MAY 2002 Cheryl D. Goodman, Bailey; Tiffany Jane Simmons and John Marcus Lessell Williams, both of Brandon;

See Graduation Page 2



Student Enjoy Crawfish Boil

East Central Community College students, faculty and staff enjoyed a crawfish boil on the mall Tuesday, April 9. Physical plant director Mike Dearing and his staff prepared 600 pounds of "Mudbugs" for the evening meal.

Wildlife Habitat improving campus beauty, students' education

The campus Wildlife Habitat, which started out as grass and boulders in front of Cross Hall Science Building, continues to expand in size and goods, according to Dr. Betty Sue Hennington, project director.

"We are very proud of the work that the science department, including our students, has done to improve the campus overall," Dr. Hennington said.

With many new projects being added to the habitat on almost a daily basis, Dr. Hennington explained what many of the new sights include.

"Joe Johnson, biology instructor, has established a victory garden (vegetable garden) on the south campus and is working on the mathematical calculations for an analemmatic sundial to be installed by his students on the front campus," she said.

"Patti Davis, biology and microbiology instructor, has added an herb garden for butterfly larvae, bird feeders throughout campus and additional blue bird boxes on the Davis Blue Bird Trail. Her students are working in conjunction with the Cornell University Ornithology Laboratory to keep records of fledges in the boxes on campus," added Dr. Hennington.

Dr. Henington praised Science Department Chairman Ron Davis for his "behind the scenes" work. She said he stays busy drilling, cutting wood, digging holes and providing support for the other instructors and their students.

Dr. Hennington has written and received a grant in conjunction with the Good Luck 4-H club to build an Arbor Vinery on the front campus around the blue

backflow valve.

"The East Central physical plant personnel, biology and chemistry students and local 4-H members and their parents and sponsors are all contributing to the construction, which should be completed this summer," Dr. Hennington said.

Dr. Hennington, with the help of physical plant director Mike Dearing, has also written a proposal to host an Americorps team on the Decatur campus.

"If this proposal is granted," said Dr. Hennington, "an Americorps team will build two trails through the north campus pine forest, renovate an ECCC dorm, work with the Americorps/Vista reading and math tutoring program and work with a chemistry class during Kids College this summer."

Not only is the Wildlife Habitat making a difference in the appearance of the campus, it is also being used as a teaching tool in many classes.

All biology classes are using the garden as part of service learning," said Dr. Hennington. "The addition of the habitat in front of Cross Hall and work around the college pond has greatly added to the students' study of ecology and forestry."

An ongoing project, Dr. Hennington said new plans for the Wildlife Habitat include adding bat boxes to the north campus around the pond, planting experimental growth plots for pine trees, adding a hardwood stand around the pond, completing work on wildflower areas, adding numerous new species of pine trees, landscaping outside the ceramics lab on south campus and adding other ways for science students to use the



Leslie Shaw, Jessica Lowry and Ashley Callahan prepare mulch for the butterfly garden.



Jay Stokes builds an entrance arbor to the ECCC Wildlife Habitat.

ECCC campus as a learning lab.

Although students and instructors are doing most of the work on the habitat, donations are welcome and needed.

"We need a pump for the front campus pond and money for buying native shrubs," said Dr. Hennington. "The department is also looking for a tiller that could become a permanent part of

our cache of tools. We also have plans to build a storage shed on the west end of Cross Hall and donations of lumber and construction help are much needed."

She added they are looking for people who would like to plant trees on campus in memory of someone. Those interested should contact Ron Davis at 635-2111, ext. 222.



Dinah Howell and Casey McMillan weed the butterfly garden area of the Wildlife Habitat.



Emily Casey, Jeremy Stevens, Dr. Betty Sue Hennington, Rachel Smith, Bonnie O'Bannon and Jeff Stuart review house plans for building duck boxes for Okatibee Lake.

Dr. Hennington said, "We are sincerely grateful to all input, ideas, time and sweat that have been added to our Arboretum/Teaching Lab project. We have found the ECCC administration is totally supportive of the work being done on campus by the science department. We thank the staff and instructors who

have donated plants and time to improving the habitat. We also thank the people of the community and our students who have been more than happy to help with the project."

For more information on the Wildlife Habitat, contact Hennington at 635-2111, ext. 362.

Graduation (continued from page 1)

Julie Anne Temkovits, Brooksville;
Sherron Adams, Jessie Cooper, Lori Nicole Cumberland, Melissa Evans, Somer Kersha Gilmer, Danielle Wilcher Goss, DeWonna Maria Grayson, Kimberly Danielle Griffin, Jessica Grimes, Richard Clint Hatch, Jennifer Kay Henry, Crystal Leigh Howell, Darwin Dewayne Kellum, Andrew Charles Kelly, Latonic Luckett, Tryphosa Tyre McFadden, Jessica McMahan, Jon Mooney, Jolena Morris, Megan Morrison, Amanda Leigh Nazary, Kenneth W. Robinson, Lana Lorraine Rogers, Valerie Sam, Jenna Sims, Dusty Vowell and Rusty L. Vowell, all of Carthage;
Kimberley Ann Culpepper,

Jane Marie Goodin Eaves, Mandi Bay Johnston and Crystal A. Reynolds, all of Chunky;
Kenneth C. Pearson and Jackie S. Woodard, both of Collinsville;
Christine Billy and Jonathan Renner Jackson, both of Conehatta;
Hayden Corey Amis, Maxwell Tyler Anderson, Natalie Christina Black, Thomas F. Clark, Cedric Cotton, Aaron Matthew Davis, John Edward Frith Jr., Roy Green, Danny C. Gressett, Jason Brian Guraedy, LaTonya Hoye, Kirkland Thomas Johnston, Christopher Jordan, Keri Ketih, Krystal Yvonne McCool, Rachel Milling, Jennifer Alisa Pace, Charles Daniel Pearce, Jacob Austin Pierce, Cynthia

Ray, Matt Reeves, Sonji Thomas Rose, Jeremy Brent Stevens, Laura Denise Sumner and William Brent Sutphin, all of Decatur;
Brandi Nicole Bounds, DeKalb;
Daniel M. Benefield and Christina Shinquella Ford, both of Enterprise;
Kelly Michelle Carlisle and Wesley F. Carlisle, both of Ethel; Lauren Amanda Allen, Chad Austin, Lewis Bradford, Lisa Richmond Brantley, Jessica N. Brooks, Ashley Natasha Brown, Sharon Shanielle Burks, Jeffery C. Cooper, Latosha Nicole Dericks, Jennifer Emmons, Lorrie A. Hardin, Susan Harris, Brandi Jones Harvey, Audie Havard, Brett Jason Hollingsworth, Jonathan Huff, Howard Jackson, Jamie Jones, Daniel Paul Kennedy, Allison Leigh Latham, Andrew L. Latham, Otha Lay, Latonya Loper, Amy Walker Lott, Tekeyla L. Lyles, LaToya McClendon, Laura Lynn McMillan, Yasmin Nicks, Timothy Pittman, Erica Ramage Riser, Jennifer Lynn Robinson, Miltzi Kathryn Rogers, Rusty Russell, JoAn M. Shelley, Shanda Shepard, Colin Dwyatt Smith, Matthew Lee Smith, Pamela J. Smith, Josh Tillman, Brandy Nicole Townsend, Jessie Warren, Linda Watkins, Jason Windham, Virginia Wolf, Fred Gaddis Woods and Jeremy Lance Wooten, all of Forest;
Rebecca Anderson, Brian Wayne Bufkin, Keith Curry, Cathie Marie Griffith, Melissa Carol Johnson, Michael Cory Johnson, Anthony J. McMillan, Tina L. Mize, Janice Marie Sadler, Brandi C. Smith, Jennifer Strebeck, Deborah Lynn Walker and Johnny Howard Walker, all of Hickory;
Marketh Brown and Heather Perry, both of Jackson;
Ayeasha Griffin, Jason Thomas Mangrum, Justin Pearson and Heidi Lynn Wallen, all of Kosciusko;
Josephine Bobbitt, Samantha Renee Gray, Ashlea B. Gullette, Rebecca Lynn Kelly, Prestee Y. Robinson and Paula Elizabeth Tadlock, all of Lake;
James L. Davis, Lauderdale;
Daphney M. Bates, Henrietta Rena Brown, NaKisha L. Jackson and Jenne White McElhenney, all of Lawrence;

Thomas Burns, Alicia Latham and Bonnie Martina O'Bannon, all of Lena;
Matt Alexander, Russell W. Alexander, Jody Morgan Chaney, Joshua Ryan Chaney, Timothy Adam Foreman, Darvol Roy Hart Jr., Jeremy Michael Jones and Tanya Lynn Oliver, all of Little Rock;
Jacqueline Moore, Makisha T. Payton and Charles Andrew Walters, all of Louin;
Molly Lauren Addkison, Cynthia Cobb Ball, Corey Blackwell, Tina Kathryn Bourland, Lillie Mae Brown, Robert Justin Clark, Connie Marie Coleman, Willie Vernell Coleman, Shundrieka Colter, Candice Cooper, Sharonne Cooper, Winfred Mondrell Craig, Tavares R. Bulberston, Robert Vance Eaves Jr., Miranda Faulk, Robert Finch, Miranda Y. Ford, Stephanie Gillett, Tameka S. Glass, Pamela Regina Glenn, Cylesha Wynette Hardin, Virginia D. Haynes, Dimetrius Henton, Rebecca Carol Herrington, Joshua R. Kelley, Willie Patrick Macon, Ernestine McCully-Pattie, Vera Harrington McDonald, Jonathan R. McMillin, Leanza Miller, Deven Patel, Dishan Prior, Hailey Susan Reynolds, Christa F. Robinson, Johnnie Goss Seward, Brandon Wayne Simpson, Joseph Stokes, Lesley M. Taylor, Justin Glynn Thompson, Katy Thompson, Takeisha Nikkol Triplett, Nathan Trosper, Miranda Welch and Evelyn Yarbrough, all of Louisville;
Kristol Brooke Bryan and Chad Williams Crowe, both of Madden;
Kevin Carter, Tammy McQuirler Davis and Kendrick Dawkins, all of McCool;
Brian Buckley, Tiffany Chancellor, Sherry D. Clark, Courtney Graham, Linda Renae Irby, Leigh Ann Morrow, James Andrew Murphy and Chris Thomas, all of Meridian;
Rheannan Jolena Crane, Penny Wilcher Easterling, Rachel L. George, Angela L. Hayman, Kenneth R. McClinton Jr., Adam McCurdy, Amanda Winters, Ruth Jean Wood and Adam Wyatt, all of Morton;
Braden Land, New Albany;
Lindsey Nicole Bridges, Milini S. Capbell, Chris Comans, Leslie Joellyn Crenshaw, Jennifer Nicole Cuchens, Amanda

N. Dean, D'ante Maurice English, Michael Evans, Kristen L. Harris, Antonio Terrell Hoye, Kyle P. James, Malithia Shaunte Jones, Alison Marie Miller, Dedria Suzanne Mitchell, Robert Kevin Pierce, Blake Revette, Connie L. Thornton, Tori Tijerina, Aloysius Towner, Natalie Marche Tune, Morgan Jade Walker and Katrina Elizabeth Wise, all of Newton;
Wendy Barnett, Julianne Nichole Collins, Trelisa Eichelberger, Bruce Ellis, Ashley L. Holdiness, Tishquia D. Hudson, Misty M. Nunn, Dana Snow Reynolds and Missy Suttle, all of Noxapater;
William Andrew Moore and Jeff Stuart, both of Pelahatchie;
Khristan Abel, Justin Dale Anderson, Matthew Allen Baldrige, Jennifer Michelle Bane, Josh Baumunk, Joshua Black, Dustin Bryce Boswell, Heather LaNette Brantley, Johnnie C. Brown III, Kerri Danielle Burks, Lori Ivey Bush, Mandy Calecas, Aaron Chunn, Amanda Kay Coghlan, Stephen R. Curtis, Sarah Nicole Duncan, Derek Dunn, Jessica Elaine Eakes, Ava Wonna Files, Tamara Lynne Gibson-Laird, Jonathan A. Griffin, Lorenzo Griffin, Stacey Denise Griffin, Jessica Henry, Jeremy Hickman, Angela Holdiness, Chalunda Chandela Hudson, Damon C. Hudson, Cynthia Sue Hunter, Monica R. Isaac, Robin Isaac, Tonya Jackson, Tracy S. Johnson, Kathy Shavondra Jones, Carmen Jones-Evans, Heather Michelle Kennedy, Brian Lillis, Vanessa N. Lunderman, Caleb Elias May, Cedric McAfee, Justin Ardell Moore, Melonie G. Moore, Benstan Lee Pope, Dorine M. Sims, Jessica Rae Sistrunk, Matthew Stone, Melissa Moore Tindol, Daniel Tubby, Byron Tullos, Erica Tullos, Lindsey Williams, Jonni Delight Wilson and Bonnie J. Witcher, all of Philadelphia;
Thomas Gene Smiley, Pontotoc;
Aimee E. McLaurin, Stacy L. Neese and Brandy Carol Richardson, all of Pulaski;
Thomas G. Bohl, Quitman;
Cassey Miller, Raleigh;
Juarez B. Emerson, Ridge-land;
Kristin Nicole Harris, Rose Hill;
Mylynda C. Murray, Sebastopol;

Erica Shavon Sumrall and Chadrick Warren, both of Shubuta;
Henry Kirkland Misso, Starkville;
George Allan, Edwards, Sturgis;
Sommer Michelle Averett, Christopher Lee Bankston, Jennifer Alicia Belk, Kevin Belk, Amy Katherine Burgin, Emily Casey, Rebecca Claire Edgar, Pamela C. Fortenberry, Rebecca Rose Germany, Stephanie Hardin, Tommy L. Hollingsworth, Katy Lynn McBeath, Ruth McKinion, Rachel Ann Richardson, Aletha Michelle Shaw, Kelly A. Sperandeo, Melanie Elizabeth Spire, Kimberly Renay Trotter and Pamela Kay Winstead, all of Union;
Juan E. Ruiz, Vicksburg;
Nathan Busby, James Denson, Chasity Harris, Larry Johnson, Lynda Wolverton Killen, Rebecca Lee Killen, Mary Amanda Latham, Becky Jo Lundy and Yancy Wilson Thrash, all of Walnut Grove;
Kenneth Aaron Hurt, Northport, AL;
Patrick Prince, Tuscaloosa, AL;
Brian Zbydniewski, Fort Walton Beach, FL;
Antoine D. Spillman, Louisville, KY; and
Nicole LaCour, Natchitoches, LA.



ECCC Expo Attracts Over 800 Students

Approximately 840 East Central Community College students visited with representatives of various companies and four-year colleges at the second annual Business, Education and Healthcare Expo held March 26 in the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building on the Decatur campus. The event attracted 62 exhibitors from throughout the state who met with East Central students to discuss career and educational opportunities. The Expo is sponsored by the College's Vocational-Technical Division and the Workforce Development Center.



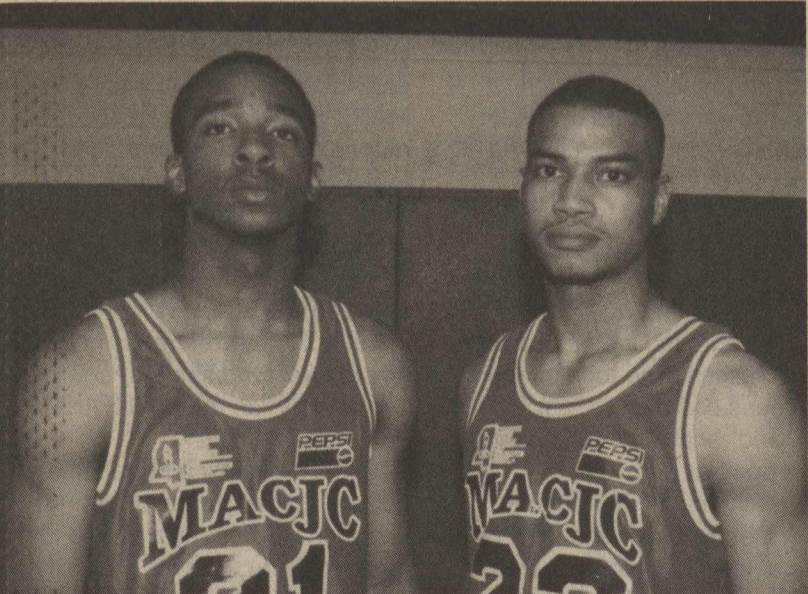
The Tom Tom

The Tom-Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, MS. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the Public Information staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 242.

Accreditation
East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination
East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. The college is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With

Warrior Athletics



Warrior All-Stars

Warrior basketball standouts Winfred Craig (left) of Louisville and James Denson of Choctaw Central High School represented East Central Community College in the annual MACJC All-Star Game held at Choctaw Central High School. They were members of the South squad, which fell 128-123 to the North. Denson was one of the South's leading scorers with 16 points. He also won runner-up honors in the slam-dunk competition. Craig did not score but did see action. The All-Star games are sponsored by the Silver Star Resort and Casino, Choctaw Central High School, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Mississippi Sports Medicine, Pepsi Cola and East Central Community College. (EC Photo)



Lady Warrior All-Stars

Lady Warrior basketball standouts Lori Cumberland (left) of Leake Academy and Nikki LaCour of Natchitoches, La., represented East Central Community College in the annual MACJC All-Star Game held at Choctaw Central High School. They were members of the South squad, which posted a 97-70 victory over the North. LaCour led all scorers with 20 points and was chosen most valuable player. Cumberland added six points. The All-Star games are sponsored by the Silver Star Resort and Casino, Choctaw Central High School, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Mississippi Sports Medicine, Pepsi Cola and East Central Community College.

PBL Winners

These East Central Community College students received top honors in the state Phi Beta Lambda Contest. Pictured are (front row, from left) Jenney McElhenney of Lake, first, computer concepts; and Terrance Williams of Conehatta, second, telecommunications; (second row, from left) Brandi Harvey of Forest, third, medical terminology; Betty Williams, third, word processing; Lee Ann Terrell of Union, third, hospitality management; Heather Kennedy of Philadelphia, third, multimedia; and Danielle Goss of Carthage, third, multimedia; and (back row, from left) Marty Pace of Newton, third, information management; and Jerry Hamm of Lake, third, business principles.



Awards Day (continued from page 1)

Chalunda Hudson of Philadelphia, Gospel Choir; Jennifer Savell of Lake, EC Environmental Club; Jessica McMahan of Carthage, L.B. Simmons History; Victoria Daniels of Philadelphia, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Arts Council Scholarship; Thomas Clark of Decatur, Ruth Carr-Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Nontraditional Education; Jaclyn Evans of Bay Springs, freshman mathematics; Charlene Foreman of Little Rock, freshman mathematics and Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Biological Sciences; Adam Joseph Wall of Forest, freshman mathematics; Kerri Burks of Philadelphia, secondary education; Edward Josh Hartley of Carthage, S. LeBrun Hutchison Engineering; Jimmy Hall of Lena, Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership; April McAdory of Philadelphia, Ann H. Burkes Phi Theta Kappa; Sharon Burks and Tekeyla Lyles, both of Forest, Crystal Reynolds of Chunky and Tracy Sullivan of Philadelphia, Mississippi Business Education Association Student Awards; Mary Margaret Irons of Philadelphia, Alyne Simmons Recruitment

Grant; Trudy King of Philadelphia, Spanish; Sonji Rose of Decatur, Associate Degree Nursing Outstanding Achievement; Nikki LaCour of Natchitoches, LA, Earline Wood Memorial Women's Basketball; Damon Hudson of Philadelphia and Ben Wilbanks of Carthage, Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers; and Sommer Averett of Union, Cory Amis and Ty Anderson, both of Decatur, and Brandi Bounds of DeKalb, Walter Arno Vincent Award for Academic Excellence in Athletics; and Ty Anderson of Decatur, Richard Fisher Organic Chemistry. Alumni Memorial Award recipients included Missy Suttle of Noxapater, Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education; Daniel Pearce of Decatur, W.A. Coursey Jr. Engineering; Aaron Matthew Davis of Decatur, Danny R. Killens Engineering; Rebecca Germany of Union, Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa; April McAdory of Philadelphia, Leon Eubanks Kaljo-Peers; Otha Lay of Forest, William S. Giffin Men's Intramural; Justin Clark of Louisville, Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Services; James



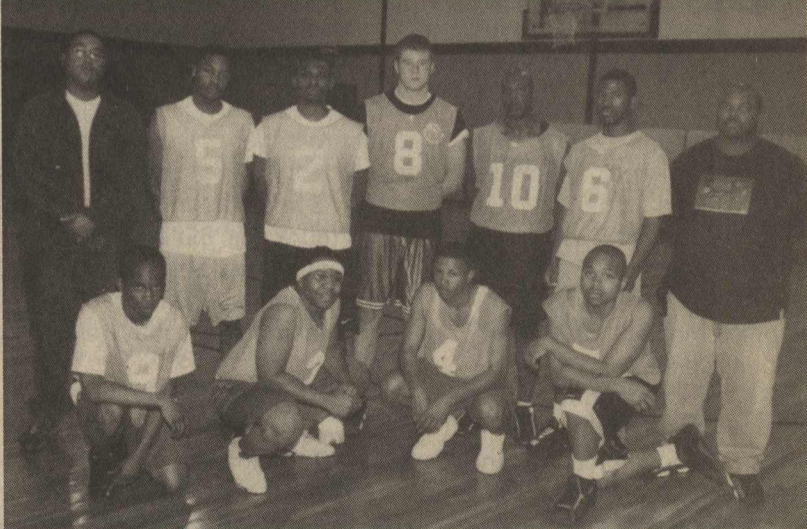
ECCC's LaCour Inks Scholarship

Nikki LaCour, a standout member of the East Central Community College women's basketball team the past two seasons, will continue her athletic career at the University of Louisiana-Monroe. LaCour, a 5-9 guard from Natchitoches, La., averaged 19 points, five rebounds and two steals per game in leading the Lady Warriors to a 14-11 mark this past season. She was selected honorable mention All-American, All-Region, All-Region Tournament Team and All-Star following the 2001-2002 campaign. She was named most valuable player of the MACJC All-Star Game after scoring 20 points in leading the South to a 97-70 win over the North. She also helped lead East Central to the Region 23 Tournament title and a 22-7 record in 2000-2001. Pictured with LaCour during a recent signing ceremony on the Decatur campus are (seated from left) her mother, Estelle LaCour, and (standing from left) Lady Warrior coaches Brad Hodge (head) and Toby Bush (assistant).



Dear, Kirby elected officers of MNA

East Central Community College Associate Degree Nursing instructors Dana Dear (left) and Brenda Kirby were recently elected officers of the Mississippi Nurses Association, District 15, which includes Newton, Scott and Leake counties. Dear was selected vice president while Kirby was chosen as president.



B League champions!

"The Dirty South Boys" won top honors in the "B League" competition of the intramural basketball championship held at East Central Community College. Team members are (kneeling from left) Kasey Kennedy of Scott Central, Darryl Wash of Chicago, IL; Michael Graham of Lake and Cartrellis Wansley of Newton; and (standing from left) Coach Adrian Moore of Lake, Dandre Hardin and Tavares Culberson, both of Louisville; Neal Tadlock of Lake, Anthony Johnson of Newton, and Fred Denson and Assistant Coach Alex Childs, both of Morton.



B League runners-up

"Mobb Deep" finished second in the "B League" competition of the intramural basketball championship held at East Central Community College. Team members are (kneeling from left) Paul Babb of Branch and Chris Van Etten of Forest, and (standing from left) Donell Harrison of Forest, Jason Denson of Branch, Handel Hughes of Forest, Larron Bryan of Philadelphia and Coach Otha Lay of Lake.

2002 Warrior Football Schedule			
Thurs., Sept. 5	Holmes	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 12	Northeast	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 19	Pearl River	Poplarville	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 26	Gulf Coast	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 5	Co-Lin	Wesson	3:00 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 10	Jones	Decatur	6:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 19	Hinds (HC)	Decatur	2:30 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 26	Northwest	Senatobia	1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 31	Southwest	Summit	7:00 p.m.
(Dates and times are tentative)			

GIVE YOURSELF A \$55,000 SCHOLARSHIP

You might not need money for college. But you probably do. Even if you earned a scholarship, chances are you still can't cover all the expenses that pile up as you work towards a college degree.

Sure, you could take out a loan, or take money from your folks, but why not do this on your own? Why not give yourself a \$55,000 scholarship? You can, in the Mississippi Army National Guard.

You can serve approximately 40 days a year, one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer typically. Earn \$9 an hour starting out, while learning a skill and building your resume. Receive up to \$10,000 from the State Education Assistance Program. Plus, up to \$472 a month from the Montgomery GI Bill. Plus, get a \$3000 or \$6000 enlistment bonus. And, all the while, you can stay in school and earn a degree.

You can do it. Give yourself a college scholarship, compliments of the Mississippi Army National Guard.

We need you. You can do it.
Call 1-800 GO GUARD.



www.1800goguard.com

MISSISSIPPI ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Good Golly, Miss Molly!

Popular Cafeteria Office Manager Has Served ECCC 27 Years

She's been serenaded on Valentine's Day, and on more than one occasion she's had to use a little force to break up an altercation between students – male and female! Life at East Central has certainly not been dull for Molly McGee of Hickory, longtime office manager at Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

McGee has worked 27 years at the cafeteria, serving with five food service managers and three College presidents. She is mainly responsible for all book-keeping duties, but also serves as cashier for breakfast and lunch and at times provides input on menu selections for College meals, banquets and other special functions. Regarding her duties, McGee said, "I like it all. I'm just a natural born bookkeeper."

She said the best part of her job is that she has the opportunity to meet many students as they enter the cafeteria. Most days are just "routine," she added, but there have been some "memorable" events to occur from time to time.

"One year at Valentine's Day, a couple of male students presented me with roses and sang 'Let Me Be Your Sweetheart' as they dropped to their knees. I didn't know how to react but I think I started laughing . . . and blushed a lot," she said.

McGee has also been witness to other memorable events in the cafeteria, including tussles between students and an occasional food fight.

"Two girls were fighting over a boy and they thought the only way to solve the problem was to pull each other's hair out! I don't remember who won the boy but each girl lost a lot of hair," she quipped.

McGee said she once served as a "referee" for two athletes who were using glasses of liquids as their weapons.

"They were fighting over a girl. One pitched a glass of milk and the other responded with a Coke. I stopped the fight when I grabbed them both by their ears and made them clean up their mess! They also had to apologize for their actions," she stated.

McGee also witnessed a few food fights over the years.

"When Mr. (Leonard) Lee was the food service manager, dinner rolls were placed on carts for students to pick up with their meals. Some students decided it was more enjoyable to throw the rolls than to eat them! That's why rolls continue to be served behind the counter today," she said.

As cashier, McGee is responsible for checking students' IDs to make sure they



Molly McGee, longtime office manager at Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

qualify to eat the day's meals. There are times when students forget their identification cards, and the excuses provided for their "forgetfulness" are sometimes "quite unique . . . and mostly unbelievable."

"One time a girl came through the line and said her dog ate her ID card. I couldn't help but laugh but she swore the dog was guilty. She did have her driver's license and social security number, so I let her go through the line," she remarked.

McGee said she usually lets students eat meals without their ID cards if she knows they attend East Central. She remarked, "It also depends on the weather as to whether or not I send them to the dorm rooms to get their IDs. As long as students provide me with their social security number, I can key it into the system and make sure they are supposed to eat. When students' meal cards expire, they go to the Business Office to get new cards."

She noted that students have changed a great deal through the years, as have clothing and

hairstyles, and modes of behavior.

"We haven't had a food fight in quite some time," she quipped. McGee also made the following observation:

"Today's student is more serious, more interested in getting an education and not doing a lot of playing around. The majority seems to have their feet on the ground. We continue to have a nice group from the Baptist Stu-

dent Union; they make a special effort to be friendly and are willing to let you know what's going on in their lives. There are also more older students attending college today, which I think is great."

McGee said she enjoys staying in touch with students after they leave East Central. "Some of the girls bring me gifts after they graduate and I appreciate their thoughtfulness. There are a lot of good kids that come through here and become my friends," she said.

Students obviously feel the same about "Miss Molly." Sophomores Candice Cooper and Miranda Faulk, both of Louisville, commented:

"She always greets us with a smile. She's like our grandmother away from home. We all love Miss Molly."

Alumnus Matt Alford of Forest, who served as student body president during the 1988-89 College term, also has fond memories of "Miss Molly."

"At meal time, we (students) would round the corner in Mabry Cafeteria and someone would

always yell, 'Good Golly it's Miss Molly!' She would always respond with a smile and let us know what was on the menu," Alford stated.

He further commented: "During my first semester at East Central, Miss Molly figured out what my favorite meals were, and which meals did not exactly suit my taste. When she would punch my meal ticket, she would always say something like, 'You'll be glad to know that today it's fried chicken,' because she knew that I liked fried chicken. On days we had hot dogs, she would frown at me as I walked up and say, 'You may not like lunch today.' Miss Molly wanted students to enjoy their meals in the cafeteria and all of us did."

A resident of Newton County for over 50 years, McGee – the former Molly Turner – is actually a native of Springfield, Missouri. After graduating from high school in West Plains, she worked at a bank and for a loan company for about five years until meeting her future husband, Joe McGee.

"Joe was sent to Riley General Hospital in Springfield, Missouri, after being wounded in World War II. We met at the USO, where I worked on weekends, after he was discharged from the hospital. My girlfriend dated Joe's roommate, and she introduced us. My friend told me she could not think of any name that went better with McGee than Molly! We got married in 1946, almost a year to the date when we met," she recalled.

When Molly and Joe came to his native Hickory, Mississippi, she first worked for J. B. Fanning's country store/restaurant, where she helped with the books and performed other clerical duties. The couple later decided to enter the dairy business, and operated McGee's Dairy Farms for about seven years. Joe also became involved in politics during this period and was elected coroner in 1951. Molly said she accompanied her husband on every call for 19 years until his health failed and he died in 1971. She completed the final year of his term and became Newton County's first woman coroner. How-

ever, she decided not to seek election to the post.

"I was encouraged to run for the office, but was really tired of being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. I was ready to do something else," she recalled.

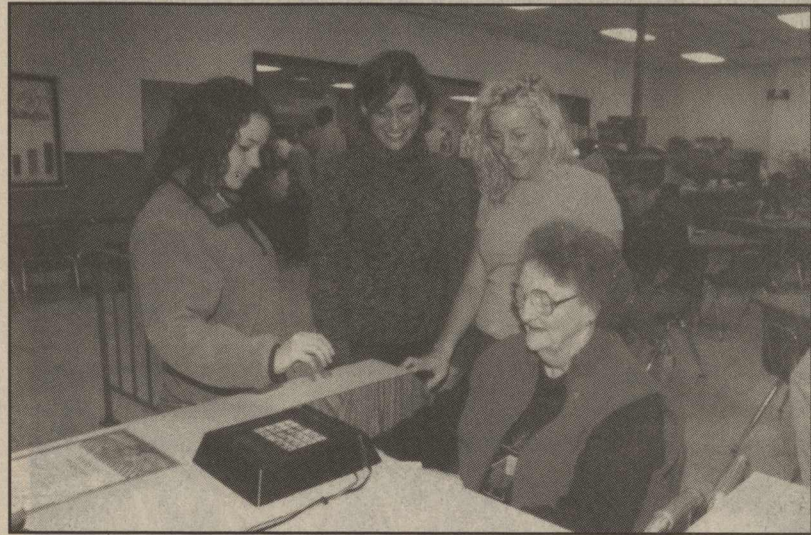
So in 1973 – at age 48– Molly McGee enrolled in her first college classes. She took intensive business courses at East Central, and recalls the experience as a positive one.

"I really enjoyed attending East Central, even though I was one of the few older students to take classes. Students made me feel a part of their group, probably because one of my daughters (Linda) attended East Central at the same time. Teachers also made me feel welcome, which I appreciated very much," she said.

She noted that all her

years for ARA, until the company changed its name to ARA-MARK and Chris Servis was named food service manager following Lee's retirement. Jack Shaw and Scott Geltzer also served time in the manager's role until Valley Food Services received the College's contract in 1999. Her current boss is Patrick Brown, who said he regards "Miss Molly" as more than just an employee.

"She's definitely a huge asset not only to the company but to me as a company guy and as an individual. She's basically like my second mother, since my mother lives in Gulf Shores, Alabama. I can tell Miss Molly just about anything, and she helps me with all my problems. She's a good listener and helps me through good times and bad. I love her like she is my own mother."



Leigh Ann Morrow of Enterprise waits to get her meal card punched by "Miss Molly" prior to eating lunch with fellow sophomores Miranda Faulk and Candice Cooper, both of Louisville.

EC teachers have retired but two – Al Deaton, who's retiring as physics/physical science instructor in May, and Tommy Thrash, who continues to teach social science courses and serve as division chairman.

McGee earned a certificate in Intensive Business – Clerical in 1974, and continued taking classes until she received an Associate in Arts degree in 1975. Two weeks after graduation, she was hired by then food service manager Leonard Lee and ARA Food Services, and began her employment at East Central. She worked about 20

McGee said she has no immediate plans for retirement, although she has had her share of health problems over the years. She suffered two broken hips – during a nine-year period – and has had other surgeries as well. She enjoys good health today and spends as much time as possible with her family, who all reside near her in Hickory. Her four children are Turner McGee, Joe Lee McGee and twins Linda Freeman and Lowery McGee. She has eight grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Teacher Spotlight: Ross Price

by Heather Brantley, Tom Tom staff

Hometown: I was born in Las Vegas, Nevada, raised in Germany and Turkey (military brat) and transplanted to Union, Mississippi, at the age of eight. I claim Union as my hometown.

Family: I am married to the former Stephanie Moore of Kosciusko and we have one wonderful five-year-old son named Will.

Education: Boston University, post graduate work and professional operatic debut; Mississippi College, M.M. and B.M.; Union High School

Years at East Central: 5

What inspired you to teach? My voice teacher at Mississippi College always told me that all professional singers and musicians end up teaching at some point in their careers. My goal was to perform professionally, which I did, but Mr. Claxton was right. As the French philosopher said, "...to teach is to learn twice!" My teaching just sort of "happened." I first taught while also singing professionally then as circumstances returned me to Mississippi several years ago, this position at East Central evolved and my experience here has been wonderful!!!

Where did you teach before East Central? I taught privately, then at the University of Texas at San Antonio and now at ECCC. All the while, I have been fortunate to pursue my professional singing career as well.

Do you enjoy teaching at EC? If I didn't, I wouldn't be here. EC has been great to me and for me! I don't believe you will find a more gifted music faculty (except the voice teacher) anywhere in this state. A very important aspect to this talented faculty is the way in which we work together for the good of the students. We all want our students to be the very best they can be which takes a lot of rehearsal planning and communication between the faculty members. Also, the faculty supports each other's discipline in a way I have never seen before and this means a lot to the students.

What courses do you teach? I teach all voice students, both major and non-major, direct the choir and teach music appreciation.

Why would you recommend someone join the East Central Community College Chorale? Our slogan is "Mediocrity is not an option!" If you love music, want to grow as a musician, have a lot of fun while working hard, and if you want to be part of a group striving to be the best they can be, then the chorale is for you. I am hoping to tour next year and I am also looking to record a CD in the sanctuary of Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson. The Chorale is like any other entity. To be the best you can be takes commitment, discipline and talent. Of those three elements, hard work makes up 90 percent of success.



ECCC's Rawson, Moore attend annual Natchez Literary Festival

East Central Community College freshman Amy Rawson of Carthage was recently selected the College's William Winter Scholar and was honored during the annual Natchez Literary Festival.

Accompanying Rawson was English instructor Patsy Moore.

Those attending were honored at a luncheon held in the Carriage House at Stanton Hall. Former Governor William Winter served as Master of Ceremonies.

Mississippi writers honored during this year's festivities included Eudora Welty, William Faulkner, Richard Wright and Tennessee Williams. Also honored was musician Louis Armstrong.

Noted scholars presented lectures, films and displays of the artists' works.

Moore said, "This festival renewed my awe for the talent that Mississippi has and has had and reminds me of the rich cultural heritage that the South has



Amy Rawson (left) and Patsy Moore pose with former Governor William Winter during the Natchez Literary Festival.

to offer."

"I studied some of these writers in high school," said Rawson, "but never realized the impact they had on the literary world. This has been a wonder-

ful experience and makes me realize that Mississippi has tremendous talent and makes me proud to be called a 'Southerner' and especially a 'Mississippian.'"

The Saiyan Arrival: Coming soon to Playstation Two

by Chris Church
Tom Tom staff

Twenty years ago Akira Toriyama wished to create an animated modern tale of the 500-year-old Chinese fable of the monkey king. Today names like Vegeta, Goku, or Gohan are known at almost any toy store or Suncoast video store. In the fall of this year, **Playstation two** owners will get the chance

to enjoy adding a piece of the **Dragonball Z** story to their gaming history.

"The level of complexity will be much different than the **Gamecube** game. The universe will be much bigger, it won't be part of a trilogy, and it will have its own story line," said Paul Rhinde, senior vice president of Info-games. Due for a U.S. release in the fall, the **Playstation two** game of this popular animated

series holds promise.

It will have available over 30 playable characters straight from the series. Rhinde said, "It will be an action/adventure game with a significant number of fighting elements." The game will also support online and offline battles from six to eight players. So if you're a fan of the show or just looking for a good fight then your wish has been granted.

Alumni, faculty remembered with special awards

Each year during East Central Community College's Awards Day program, various honors are presented to freshman and sophomore students. Among those honors are the alumni and faculty memorial awards.

Longtime physical education instructor and alumnus Lucille Wood (Class of 1951) compiled the following information which gives details of each award.

ALUMNI MEMORIAL AWARDS

The **Billy Wayne Baucum Secondary Education Award** is given by Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Thrash in memory of their friend. A graduate of Newton High School, Billy Wayne Baucum attended ECJC during the 1959-60 and 60-61 college years. He died as a young man while serving as Newton County Superintendent of Education. He was an All-American football player and was chosen Mr. East Central Junior College. This award is presented to a graduating sophomore who is majoring in the field of secondary education. Grades, leadership and character are the considerations for this award.

The **Opal McMullan Dickinson Award** is presented each year to a sophomore elementary education major with a 3.0 or higher grade point average. This award is given in memory of Ms. Dickinson who was an elementary school teacher. She was a graduate of Decatur High School and attended ECJC during the 1940-41 term. She and her classmate, Alatha Chaney, drowned in the Bowie River while in summer school at Mississippi Southern College (now the University of Southern Mississippi). The award is given by Mr. & Mrs. Marion McMullan in memory of their daughter.

The **Alatha Chaney English Award** is given by Mrs. E.L. Chaney of Hickory in memory of her daughter. Alatha Chaney graduated from Hickory High School and attended East Central Junior College from 1939 to 1941. She was a school teacher and writer. She drowned in the Bowie River while in summer school at Mississippi Southern along with classmate Opal McMullan. This award is given to a graduating sophomore who has completed as many English course offerings as possible and who has exhibited academic excellence in English. Preference will be given to an English major.

The **W.A. Coursey, Jr., Engineering Award** is presented

each year to a graduating sophomore who is majoring in one of the many engineering fields. The student must have done outstanding work in the complete calculus sequence and other sophomore level courses appropriate to his or her major. This award is presented by Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Coursey in memory of their son. W. A. Coursey, Jr., was a graduate of Newton County Agricultural High School and attended ECJC during the 1941-42 and 1942-43 college terms. He was killed in the European Theater of World War II.

The **Sara Carr Deaton Business Technology Award** is given by Mrs. Dorsey Carr of Louisville in memory of her daughter, Sara, who died from natural causes as a young adult. Sara Carr was a graduate of Louisville High School and attended ECJC from 1942 to 1943. This award is presented to the most outstanding graduate in the one-year Business Technology program. Considerations include grades, character, attitude and potential for success in the field of business technology.

The **Sue Yarbrough Fulgham Speech Award** is presented to the most outstanding student in the College's oral communication classes. It is given by Mrs. Ruby Yarbrough and Miss Patricia Triplett in memory of their daughter and cousin, respectively. Sue Yarbrough Fulgham, a graduate of Noxapater High School, attended ECJC during the 1952-53 and 1953-54 college terms and was selected Miss ECJC. An outstanding speech and theater student, she was a victim of polio at an early age but lived a useful life. She died while teaching at a college in North Carolina.

The **William S. Giffin Men's Intramural Award** is given by Dr. Bob Giffin of Louisville in memory of his brother. William Giffin was a graduate of Louisville High School and attended ECJC from 1941 to 1943 and was a member of Warrior football team. He died in a Memphis hospital from wounds received in Europe during World War II. Considerations for this award include sportsmanship, maintaining above a C average, being a team leader, participation, athleticism and good character.

The **Danny R. Killens Engineering Award** is presented each year to a graduating sophomore majoring in one of the many fields of engineering. He

or she must be a member of Phi Theta Kappa. The student must have done outstanding work in the complete calculus sequence and other sophomore level courses appropriate to his or her major. This award is given by Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa in memory of Danny Killens who served as president of the honor society and of Alpha Alpha Epsilon Engineering Club. He was a graduate of Union High School and attended ECJC during the 1976-77 and 1977-78 college years. He was killed in an automobile accident during his junior year at Mississippi State University.

The **Jack B. Mayo Phi Theta Kappa Award** is given by Mr. and Mrs. O.B. Mayo in memory of their son, Capt. Jack Mayo who was a graduate of Newton County Agricultural High School and attended East Central Junior College from 1948 to 1950. Jack Mayo was a member of Phi Theta Kappa and played on the Warrior football team as a holder for extra points. He was a test pilot for the U.S. Armed Forces when he and his plane disappeared over the Gulf of Mexico. This award is given to graduating Phi Theta Kappa members exemplifying the four Hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa: Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship.

The **Dr. Edwin Miller Medical Sciences Award** is presented each year to a sophomore majoring in a medical science. The person must be a top student with a good attitude and good work habits. The individual is chosen by an appointment of the science faculty. This award is given by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Miller in memory of their son, Dr. Edwin Miller, who died of a heart attack when he was a young medical doctor. He was a graduate of Newton County Agricultural High School and attended ECJC during the 1947-48 and 1948-49 college terms.

The **Howard Sessums Award for Men's Basketball** is given by Mr. Sessums' former teammates. He was a graduate of Harpersville High School and attended ECJC from 1949-50 and 1952-53. A former All-American basketball player, Sessums played on the Warrior team that was ranked fourth in the nation. He was killed in an automobile accident on Highway 35, north of Forest. Considerations for this award include leadership on and off the floor, character, work ethic and success on and off the

floor. The recipient must be a sophomore and a 2-year letterman.

The **Andrew F. Webb Football Award** is presented each year to a sophomore member of the Warrior football team and is based on character, work ethic and leadership on and off the field. The recipient must maintain a C average or better and show love of sport. The award is given by Mr. Arno Vincent in memory of his roommate and football teammate, Andrew Webb, who was a graduate of Forest High School and attended ECJC during the 1935-36 and 1936-37 college terms. Webb was a First Team All-State football player at ECJC. He was a Flying Tiger for the Army Air Force when he lost his life in the Pacific.

The **Earline Wood Women's Basketball Award** is given by Miss Lucille Wood in memory of her sister, Earline Wood. Earline Wood was a graduate of Louisville High School and attended ECJC from 1942 to 1943. She was an outstanding athlete but ECJC did not participate in sports during World War II. She died from sudden natural causes two days before entering nurses training in New Orleans. Requirements for this award include possessing a love of and dedication to the sport, being a team-oriented person, displaying good citizenship; exhibiting good sportsmanship; and exhibiting academic proficiency by maintaining a 2.5 or better grade point average.

The **Homer F. Hunter Award for Athletic Managers** is presented each year to a manager of one of East Central's athletic teams. It is given by Mrs. Ann Burkes in memory of her father, Homer Hunter, who served as a manager for a number of sports while a student at ECJC. Hunter was a graduate of Newton County Agriculture High School and attended ECJC from 1936 to 1938. He was also a most loyal fan having missed only four football games the first 54 years of East Central's existence. Mr. Hunter was seen at most basketball games and missed only the last game of the 2002 season due to illness. In addition to serving as a manager, criteria for this award include maintaining a C or better average, exemplifying a strong work ethic and character and maintaining a high moral standard.

FACULTY MEMORIAL AWARDS

The J. Wallace Bedwell Business Award is given by Phi Beta Lambda in memory of Mr. Bedwell, who taught business classes at the college from 1945-1972. The award goes to a graduating sophomore in Business Administration and is based upon grades, attitude, involvement and potential success in the field.

The **Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry Award** is given by family and friends of Mr. Cross who taught chemistry at ECJC from 1933 to 1970. This award is presented to a first-year chemistry student who possesses excellent grades and exhibits an innate understanding of chemical processes and chemical calculations. The recipient is chosen by an agreement of the science faculty. This award can be given to two top students when no distinction between the two can be made.

The **Robert G. Fick Memorial Scholarship** was established by Mrs. Robert (Gerri) Fick and her son, Leonard Fick in memory of their husband and father who taught music at the College from 1951-1978. Recipients must be a returning full-time student in voice, piano or band and must show dedication to the betterment of the music department through untiring work. He or she must have a cumulative grade point average above 2.0. Major or financial need is not criteria for selection.

The **Frank Edwin and Nena Holt Leatherwood Scholarship** is given by family and friends of the Leatherwoods. Mr. Leatherwood taught biological sciences at ECJC from 1946 to 1967. This award goes to a freshman majoring in biological science. The person must be a good student with good grades and must demonstrate financial need. The recipient is chosen by an agreement of the science faculty.

The **J. Andy Miller Freshman Engineering Award** is given by Alpha Alpha Epsilon Engineering Club in memory of Mr. Miller, who served as the College's first engineer (physical plant director). This award is given to an academically talented freshman engineering major who is also a member of Alpha Alpha Epsilon, "The Engineers."

The **Charles H. Pennington Business Technology Award** is given by members of the Pennington family in honor of Mr. Pennington, who taught business technology at ECJC from 1951 to 1975. The award is pre-

sented to the most outstanding graduate in the two-year program of Business Technology. Criteria includes grades, character, attitude and potential success in the field.

The **General William Patrick Wilson General Academic Scholarship** was established by the Class of 1937, family, friends and associates of Gen. Pat Wilson. During his association with the College from 1933 to 1942, Gen. Wilson served in various positions including football coach, baseball coach and Dean of Men. In addition, he led the local National Guard unit in World War II. Recipients are selected by the College's Scholarship Committee from students who have attained sophomore standing, maintained a 3.0 grade point average and have shown the need for financial assistance.

The **Leon Eubanks-Kaljic-Peers Award** was established in 1994 by Mr. Eubanks who served the College as an English teacher from 1934 to 1943. It is awarded each year to the Student Body Association president.

The **Ruth Hull Memorial Award for WO-HE-LO** is given by former students of Mrs. Hull, who taught Home Economics at the College from 1955 to 1971. She also served as sponsor of the Wo-He-Lo (college yearbook). The recipient of the WO-HE-LO award is selected because of his or her knowledge of and dedication to the process of yearbook production. Timeliness, accuracy and a willingness to work until the job is complete are essential qualities for this recipient.

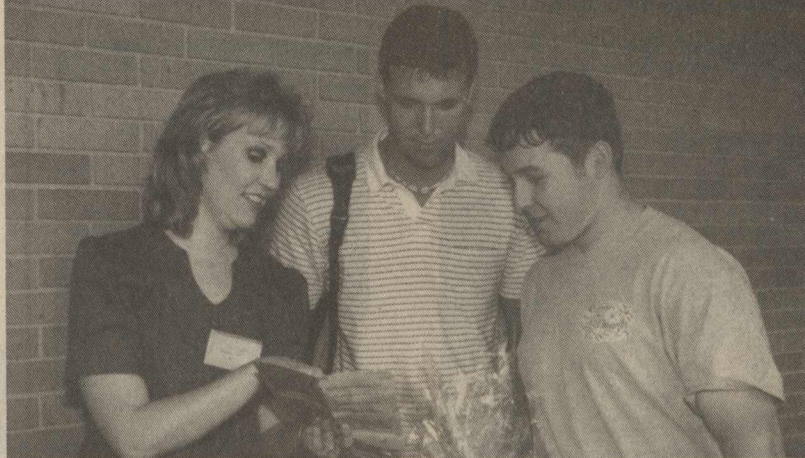
The **L.B. Simmons American History Award** is given by Dr. Richard C. Ethridge in memory of Mr. Simmons who taught social science at the college from 1958 to 1980. The student receiving this award must be a full time student in good standing with the college. He/she must have completed American History I and be enrolled in American History II and demonstrate a high degree of interest in the subject.

(Note: While serving as Alumni Association president in 1965, Lucille Wood began the Alumni Memorial project and this became Awards Day as it is known today. She welcomes any corrections to the above information.)



Shaw Donates Kiln

Michelle Shaw (left) of Philadelphia recently donated this kiln to the ceramics lab at East Central Community College. Also included were kiln shelves, molds and other components. A sophomore medical technology major, Shaw is scheduled to graduate from the College in May. At right is Bruce Guraedy, Chairman of the Fine Arts Department and art instructor.



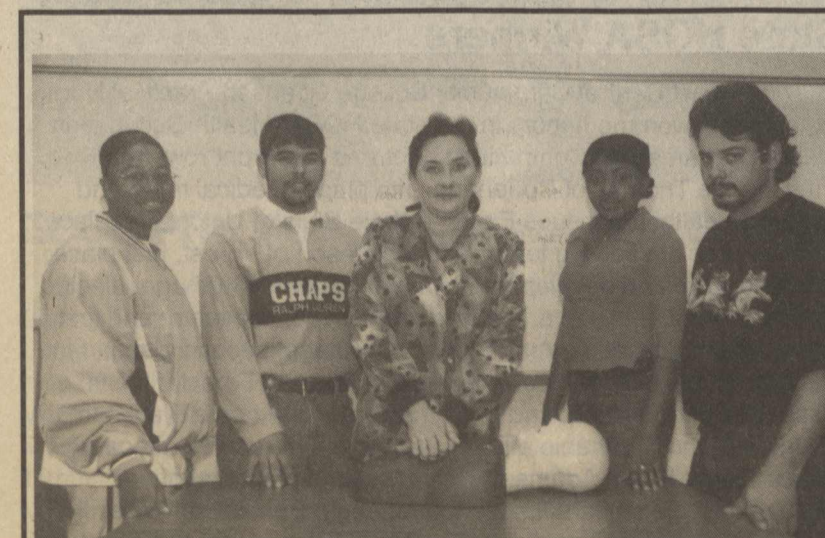
Participate in community service fair

Renee Thaggard Jones (left) of Horizon Hospice, LLC, in Decatur talks with East Central Community College students (from left) Casey Johnson and Jake Nester, both of Lake, during the Learning Skills Center's Community Service Fair. The special event, which was held as part of a service learning project, provided an opportunity for instructors and students to see the link between community service agencies and education. Jones is a 1988 graduate



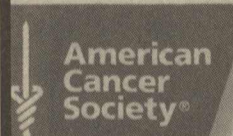
Cantey selected for honor societies

East Central Community College Associate Degree Nursing instructor Sherri Cantey was recently inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi's Gamma Lambda chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the international nursing honor society. She was also inducted into USM's Phi Kappa Phi honor society. A native of Winston County, she is a graduate of Louisville High School and Meridian Community College. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in nursing from USM.



Receive CPR Training

These students in Lucille Wood's first aid class at East Central Community College recently received CPR training as part of their classroom assignment. From left are Bernice Hannah of Louisville, Brody Perkins of Carthage, CPR instructor Donna Pace, Newton Regional Hospital; Mary Shannon of Philadelphia and Joshua Woodall of Newton.



SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED!

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD WITH CANCER?

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AS COUNSELORS FOR CAMP RAINBOW, A SUMMER CAMP FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-17 WITH DIAGNOSIS OF CANCER.

JULY 27 - 31, 2002
ROOSEVELT STATE PARK

CALL: 1-800-ACS-2345

CAMP RAINBOW IS PROVIDED BY THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND IS FREE TO ALL CHILDREN AND VOLUNTEERS

SIFE, Spanish students assist Forest’s Trinity Mission with classes

by Kathy Jones
Tom Tom staff

In an effort to promote educational and career advancement, the East Central Community College chapter of Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), assisted by students in Dr. Linda Lane’s Spanish classes, completed its annual community outreach project. This project was in preparation for the Regional SIFE competition in Birmingham, AL.

According to Wanda Moore, SIFE advisor, the project was developed to “aide or reach students in the English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.”

Held at the Trinity Missionary Church in Forest, the workshop’s learning center is a second home to many Spanish-speaking immigrants who wish to improve their English language skills. More importantly, the ESL classes instill confidence in the students. They are encouraged to seek better paying jobs and additional resources, easing their stay in the United States.

“Our students are Spanish speakers and it is a great joy and assistance when East Central students use their free time to help others,” said Ann Clements, ESL Director

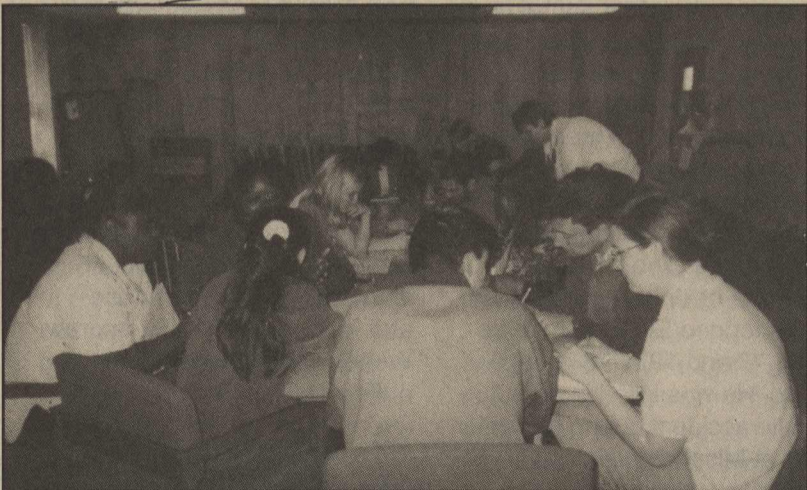
at Trinity Mission, who welcomed the group.

“Volunteering for the ESL classes was a great experience,” said Kathy Jones, SIFE president. “This was my second year to participate. It allows me to realize the importance of language skills. Many of the workshop participants have obtained master’s degrees in economics and math, but as a result of poor language skills, they are limited to low wage positions at chicken processing plants in Scott County. The staff at Trinity Mission should be commended for their efforts in assisting the immigrants.”

Dr. Lane’s Spanish students conducted mock interviews with the workshop participants and later assisted them with mock job applications.

Spanish student Jessica Eakes who viewed the program enthusiastically said, “The English as a Second Language program is a great opportunity to help someone by using what I have learned in Dr. Lane’s classes. The students at the Center were very eager to learn all that they could in a simple class meeting. Having experienced that, I look forward to working with them even more.”

SIFE member LaQuisha



ECCC SIFE members and Spanish students assist Spanish-speaking immigrants at the Trinity Missionary Church in Forest.

Latimer said, “The ESL classes were great. I love meeting new people and learning about their backgrounds and cultures. I was surprised to learn that I had helped a man who had worked for his country’s Embassy. He was very intelligent and loved living in America. However, he could not get a good job because of poor English skills. This man had been living in the U.S. for about 13 years. The ESL classes aided him with English and now he is very fluent in the language.”

The SIFE students had one main goal while volunteering at the workshop. That goal was to encourage and guide the students in

filling out mock job applications. The students needed to know the pride of their culture. They were informed that in America, speaking Spanish is a great advantage and not a hindrance. By speaking Spanish, they are actually a step ahead in the career field.

SIFE and Dr. Lane’s Spanish students were positive roles on the day of the workshop, defining the purpose of the Trinity Missionary Church. Not only does it cover English and Spanish, but the human desire to achieve and overcome obstacles such as language illiteracies.



Celebrate ‘Teacher Appreciation Week’

East Central Community College students in Lucille Wood’s Health class celebrated National Teacher Appreciation Week April 15-19 by writing letters to their former elementary and high school instructors. Among those participating in the project were (front row, from left) Stefanie Cobb of Carthage, Glenda Brown of Union and Charlie Goodwin of Raleigh; (second row, from left) Carmen Jones-Evans of Philadelphia, Jodie Barker and Deedra Munn, both of Union; and Nikki LaCour of Natchitoches, LA; and (back row, from left) Wynease Carter of Union, Becky Herrington of Louisville and Kyle Miller of Philadelphia.



Wood receives Red Rose Award

Longtime East Central Community College faculty member Lucille Wood (right) of Louisville is the 2001-2002 recipient of the Red Rose Award presented by Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International. Carol Vickers of Decatur, retired ECCC instructor and Chairman of Xi Chapter’s Professional Affairs Committee, is shown presenting the award. Wood will soon complete her 48th year of service in education and her 40th year as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, an organization of key women educators. During her tenure as women’s basketball coach, Wood led teams to four state championships and placed numerous players on all-state and all-region squads. In 1988, the new gymnasium on the East Central campus was designated as the “Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building,” in honor of Wood and General Denver Brackeen. In accepting the Red Rose Award, Wood, who serves as sponsor of East Central’s Student Education Association, commented that while she was proud of her work as a basketball coach, it is her work with future educators in which she takes greater pride.

ECCC students sport a variety of fashions

by Shaletha Wade
and Ardria Harris
Tom Tom staff

It’s spring. The coming of spring means flowers in bloom, warm days and time to put away a winter wardrobe. At East Central, the female students are sporting a variety of new outfits for every occasion. There is a song in the musical “Oklahoma” which proclaims “Spring is bursting out all over.” Well at East Central, new outfits can be seen all over campus announcing what the latest fashions are for college students across the southland.

The clothes worn by these East Central students show great versatility. The outfits are in style but can be worn on vacation as well as on campus. The casual look is the order of the day and casual means comfort. These young ladies have chosen clothes that fit their personality, pocketbook and propensity for making college meaningful and fun.



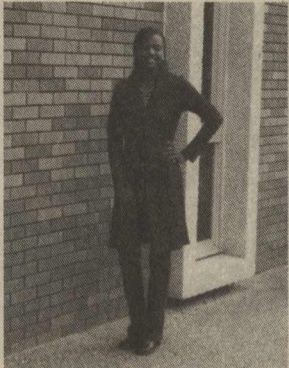
Dren Baullon of Newton has chosen a black shirt and khaki slacks. Her black open-toed shoes are cool and comfortable for the warmer spring days. Dren has chosen to add a note of ‘dress up’ to this outfit with gold bracelets and earrings.



Robin McDonald of Noxapater has chosen a variegated two-piece suit. This comfortable blue, white and light pink suit can be worn for “dress up” occasions or for those times when Robin wants to be a little more formal than just donning the usual tops and blue jeans which are so often seen.



Natalie Chapman from Clarke County strikes a pose wearing a baby doll white top and a denim skirt. Her tan boots were made for walking and the mudd purse slung casually over her shoulder completes this very “in style” outfit.



Wyneda McLaurin who hails from Newton looks very smart in a knee length coat of navy blue. Her blue and white top adds just a bit of contrast to this all navy outfit.



“Comfort is what I’m looking for,” says Tameka Rush of Louisville. Tameka has chosen a pink tank top and a multicolored skirt. The pink in the tank top matches perfectly with the pink of the skirt and the matching pink sandals.



Its sexy snake skin for Yolanda Carson. What could be better to welcome spring than a black three-quarter sleeve top with side slits accented with boot cut snake print pants. Yolanda has chosen black leather sharp toed boots to accent this sensuous outfit.



Sheena Lampley of Louisville means to beat the heat with this comfortable yellow halter top and denim shorts. The low cut neck and short sleeves of the pull-over and the thong sandals are just what the doctor ordered for warm spring days.



It’s white and khaki for Kristen Persons of Noxapater. Kristin is a standout against pink azaleas wearing a white “baby tee” with flared khaki pants. Brown shoes complete this outfit.



Buttons march smartly down the front of Daphne Stovall’s Bluejean dress by Abercrombie and Fitch. The dress illustrates how versatile bluejean material can be. The open collar and short sleeves make this dress ideal for warm days.



Erica Williamson strikes a pose in red and white. The checkered pants are just the match for her red shoes with bows. The white blouse has an open neck and just the hint of a sleeve. This outfit was made for comfort and summer fun.



Participate in honor choir

These members of the East Central Community College Choral were selected to attend the 2002 statewide Honor Choir held in March at Galloway Methodist Church in Jackson. Pictured are (front row, from left) Renae Irby of Meridian, Natalie Duncan of Lake, Megan Logan of Newton and Ricardo Robinson of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Lisa Chamblee of Carthage, Chris Carson of Decatur, Dinah Howell of Little Rock, and David Thorne and Caleb Cook, both of Hickory.



State HOSA Winners

These East Central Community College Licensed Practical Nursing students won top honors in the state HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) Competition. Pictured are (front row, from left) Rhonda Thomas of Conehatta, fifth place, medical math and National Healthcare Issues Exam; Debbie Blais of Union, first place, creative problem solving team; Kathy Harrison of Forest, first place, human growth and development; Tanya Primer of Carthage, elected state president, first place, creative problem solving team; and first place, health education; Amy Clark of Carthage, second place, basic concepts of health care; and Eileen Soto of Forest, first place, health education; and (back row, from left) Jamie Blackburn of Decatur and Stephanie Mills of Carthage, National Healthcare Issues Exam; Karen Adams of Union, second place, nutrition, and National Healthcare Issues Exam; Angie Beasley of Louisville, fourth place, job seeking skills; J.J. Misso of Louisville, first place, creative problem solving team; Teresa Cager of Forest, first place, health education; and Kathy Hogue of Walnut Grove, elected state secretary/treasurer.

Dominoes: An East Central tradition for almost 40 years!



Members of today's domino group are often found in Sullivan Student Center during the noon hour.

When people think of East Central Community College and competitiveness, they often think of football or basketball or one of the other inter-collegiate sports in which the Warriors participate. But perhaps the most competitive sport at East Central is the game of dominoes. And it's played by instructors, not students!

"Dominoes" have been played in the faculty lounge of Sullivan Student Center at East Central Community College for almost 40 years. Players have changed over the years, but the game remains the same.

Since the 1962-63 college term, East Central instructors have been gathering during their lunch hour to play games. According to Dr. Richard Ethridge, retired social science instructor, the group first played checkers, then the card game Hearts and then switched to dominoes a short time later.

Dr. Ethridge said, "If I recall correctly, the competitive playing began in earnest after Joe V. Clark (former Director of Student Life and Dean of Men) came on board as basketball coach."

The original group began with Ethridge; Clark; former social science instructor, L.B. Simmons; former Dean of Instruction, Dr. Brad Tucker; and former Dean of Students, Denver Brackeen. Others who have been part of the game at some time or another include mathematics instructor, Dr. Shelby Harris; football coach, Ken Pouncey; Athletic Director and women's basketball coach, Sammy Pace; and football coach, Herman Robinson.

Today's group includes art instructor and Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts, Bruce Guraedy; social science instructor and Chairman of the Division of Social Science, Business Administration and Education, Tommy Thrash; physics instructor, Al Deaton; and Baptist Student Union Director, Scott Vaughn.

Many others have played throughout the years and sometimes there were so many

people playing that two tables were going at the same time. "When it got bigger than that, Joe Clark invented a card game, a variation of contract bridge, which he called 'Joe Wins,'" said Vaughn. "At times there were as many as 12 people playing in the same game."

Clark is considered to be the best player by most people who have participated. "He was the most competitive of any of the players," said Dr. Ethridge. "Clark was also good at cards and won much of the time at this game. When the dominoes game was introduced, he excelled at this and was the master of the table! Clark was and is so good at the game that he knows who holds what domino after only a few plays."

"Once, when Ken Pouncey was playing, the dominoes were down to only a couple for each player. Joe told Pouncey to go ahead and play a certain domino that he was holding. At this time, Pouncey jumped up and said he wasn't going to play any more if Clark knew what everybody was holding!"

"There was only one person that seemed to be able to aggravate Joe Clark with his weird playing," said Vaughn. "Ron Bixby would often pass up scoring plays to throw Joe off and make him think the scoring domino was in another location."

Both agreed that L.B. Simmons was also very competitive. Vaughn said, "It is rumored that if Prof. Simmons was losing, the game could not end!"

With Clark being on the winning side of most games, some would wonder if anyone else ever won a game. "Most every player would win at some time or another," said Ethridge. "The luck of the draw would allow that. And even a blind hog comes up with an acorn at times!"

Many times, new players were recruited. Bruce Guraedy remembers when Joe Clark took him under his wing to teach him how to play dominoes.

"He instructed me that when I had several dominoes of the

same suit, like several twos and several threes, and one of the dominoes was the 2-3, then lead with it when beginning the game so that the 'spinner' that might come out will be a two or three," said Guraedy. "On the next hand I had several ones and several sixes so I led with the 6-1 domino to begin the game. Joe started hollering and calling me an idiot! What I didn't know at the time is the 6-1 is what is known as a repeat domino that is good for scoring right behind your opponent when he scores."

Many funny things have happened to Guraedy since he has been playing dominoes.

"One day I brought a sack lunch to the game," he said. "While I was getting my chair set up to play, Tommy Thrash lit the bag with a cigarette lighter and said 'Somebody's lunch is on fire.'"

On another occasion, Guraedy performed what has become known as "Bruce's Famous Coke Trick."

"When 20 oz. plastic coke bottles first came out," said Guraedy, "I brought a coke in and set it down on the table. The tables used to be real wobbly. When the table shifted, I thought the bottle was going to turn over. I quickly grabbed the bottle but, because it was plastic, when I squeezed it the cap shot to the roof and sprayed everyone at the table with a Coca-Cola shower!"

It used to be that the game was very serious. But according to Vaughn, today it is just a time of fun. He said, "To win means you have bragging rights for a day."

Dr. Ethridge said he still plays dominoes. "Dr. Brad Tucker and I played Joe Clark and L.B. Simmons 620 games at my workshop office before Mr. Simmons became ill and passed on. Out of that number, Dr. Tucker and I won 321 and Coach Clark and Professor Simmons won 298 and we tied one."

"Professor Simmons was not in the best form during the last few games, however, and when he no longer could come to play, we stopped playing out of respect for him. We plan to play again as soon as Coach Clark gets all his scheduled surgery behind him. Dr. Tucker and I have already played Clark and his new partner, Denver Brackeen, 26 games of which the former Dean and I won 15 and they won 11. Do we keep a record of this type of thing? Yes!"

In the words of Dr. Ethridge, "The long-lasting domino game at ECCC is indicative of the feeling and the reality of 'family' at ECCC."



The Collegians, East Central Community College's pop/rock vocal and instrumental group will make their way to the "Lone Star State" when they perform this summer at Sea World in San Antonio, Texas. Members of the popular group include (kneeling, from left) technicians Marcus Williams of Brandon and Andy Polizzi of Meridian; (seated, from left) technicians Josh Tillman of Forest, George Edwards of Louisville, Lucas Pope of Philadelphia and Andy Murphy of Meridian; and wind section members Joshua Black of Philadelphia, Matt Hedrick of Decatur and Grant Morris and April McAdory, both of Philadelphia; and (standing, from left) vocalists Megan Tramill of Newton, Damein Wash of Hickory, Claire Edgar of Union, Chris Carson of Decatur, Kristen Thornton of Edinburg and Josh Burton of Decatur; and rhythm section members Kirk Misso of Starkville, Michael Eichelberger of Conehatta and Matt Baldrige of Philadelphia. Thomas W. Carson serves as director and also plays guitar.

Collegians to Perform at Sea World

By Thomas W. Carson
Special to The Tom Tom

The 2001-2002 Collegians will embark on their thirteenth annual summer tour with a swing through Texas as they visit San Antonio, home of the Alamo.

The ECCC "rock and rollers" will be hangin' out with Shamu, as they entertain crowds for the

summer opening of Sea World.

Because of my daughter's high school graduation, we are touring a week earlier than usual, and most of the national theme parks, except for Disney, are not yet open during the week. Sea World San Antonio was looking for a group to entertain on their opening day, Friday, May 17, and we were available at that time.

Busch Gardens in Tampa,

Florida, had contacted me, but I told them they would have to wait for the "Collegian Experience" at a later date!

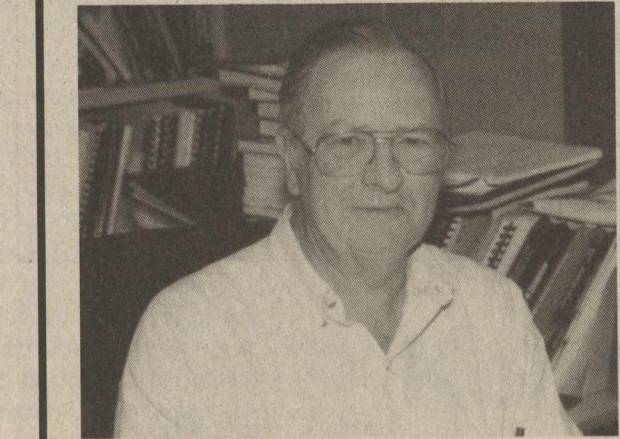
Of course The Alamo will be part of our visit, as well as a quick day trip to the Mexican border town of Nuevo Laredo. The Mexico trip ought to be a great lesson in math...price squabbling over that one-of-a-kind sombrero or leather wallet!



Bobo Serves as Guest Clinician

Len Bobo (right), organist and choir director at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson, was recently a guest clinician for East Central Community College Chorale. Bobo is a published composer of organ and choral works.

Clark to retire following spring term



Richard Clark

As students complete final exams and begin moving their belongings home for the summer Machine Shop Technology instructor Richard W. Clark will begin packing up many years of East Central Community College memories as he retires at the end of the spring term.

Clark has been at East Central since 1969 when his good friend Al Deaton, who he has known since they were students and neighbors at Mississippi State University, took him to the College's new vocational-technical center to show him the machine shop technology lab.

Clark, who was working at U.S. Electrical Motors in Philadelphia at the time, said they went over on a Sunday afternoon and a few days later O.L. Newell, former director of the vocational-technical division of the college, called and asked if he would like to interview for

the position. He did apply and is now completing his thirty-first year.

Clark attended Arlington High School and graduated from Neshoba Central High School. He attended East Central Junior College from 1959-61 and completed his

associate's degree in 1980. He also attended Mississippi State University.

He is a member of MAVE (Mississippi Association of Vocational Educators) and VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) and is a past member of AVA (American Vocational Association). In 1987, he was selected to Who's Who Among American Teachers. He was named the College's Vocational-Technical Instructor of the Year in 1999.

Clark and his wife Lynette, who is the book-keeper and office manager for the Neshoba County Co-Op, have three children: Kent is a poultry farmer in Philadelphia and Glynn is a truck driver in Bessemer, Alabama. Debbie lives in Olive Branch and is attending Mid-America Seminary where she is seeking an additional master's degree

in cross cultural studies and preparing to be a foreign missionary. The Clarks have three grandchildren: Jonathan, Amanda and Hanna.

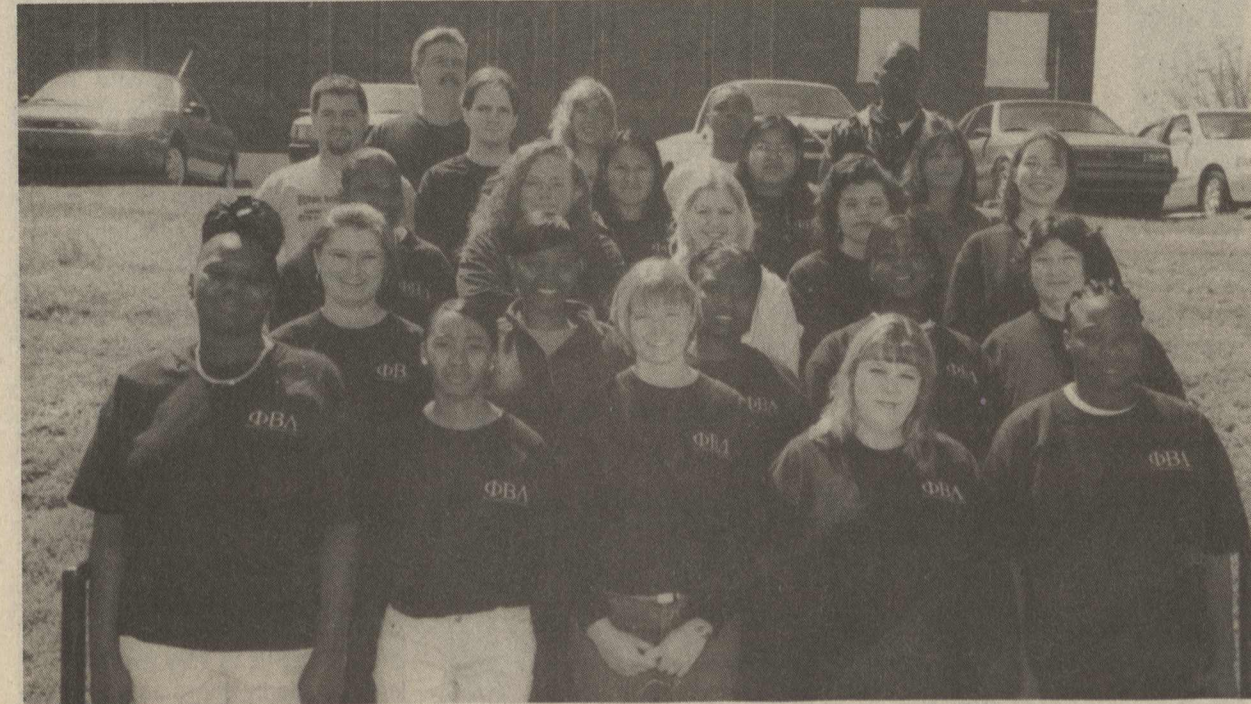
Regarding his years at East Central, Clark said, "It's been a pleasure for the most part. I think it's a real privilege to get to do something you enjoy and get paid for it."

"You get to see young people go on and follow this occupation and do well in life. I have quite a number of students who have come back to thank me for the help I gave them while they were students."

Why would Clark retire from a job he loves so much? "It's just that time in life," he said. "I had heart surgery in October. I'm doing well, but I can't hold out to do some things. I just decided to step down and let someone else take over. But I do want to see the program continue to grow and make progress."

After retirement, Clark said he plans to do some metal and wood-working in his small shop at home. He also said he would like to work part-time somewhere, but not more than a couple days a week.

Clark, who has also been doing testing and evaluation of maintenance personnel for the Nissan plant in Madison County, said he hopes to continue to be affiliated with the car manufacturer.

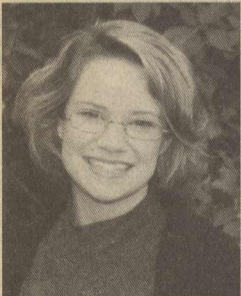


ECCC PBL Members Assist with District FBLA Contest

Members of East Central Community College's Phi Beta Lambda chapter recently assisted with the Central District Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Contest, which was held on the College's Decatur campus. Phi Beta Lambda is an organization for business students. Pictured are (front row, from left) Rebecca Ross of Montrose, Leslie Patrick of Conehatta, Ashley Jones of Newton, Jenne McElhenney of Lake and Shalonda Buckley of Philadelphia; (second row, from left) Brandi Harvey of Forest, Ethel Dubose of Quitman, Elsalena Roberts and Temeka Drummond, both of Newton; and Tammy Davis of Louisville; (third row, from left) Jamika Brown, Tonya Flowers and Bonner Rose Norwood, all of Philadelphia; Danielle Goss of Carthage, and Betty Robinson of Edinburg; (fourth row, from left) Cory Johnson of Hickory, Jeremy McNair and Monica Issac, both of Philadelphia; Kristine Willis of Conehatta and Linda Dempsey of Louisville; and (top row, from left) Marty Pace of Newton, Heather Kennedy of Philadelphia and Cartrellis Eansley and Antonio Hoyer, both of Newton.

Rose named Outstanding ADN student

Other nursing students recognized for achievement



Sonji Rose of Decatur, a fourth semester student in East Central Community College's Associate Degree

Nursing program, was recently named Outstanding ADN Student during the Mississippi Organization of Associate Degree Nurses annual Convention.

She received a \$500 scholarship and will be featured in the next issue of the MOADN news-

letter. Criteria include nomination by the College's ADN faculty, a 2.5 or better grade point average with satisfactory clinical skills, leadership among fellow students while in the ADN program, a high degree of caring and professional spirit and community service. Each nominee also had to submit a one page essay titled "As an AD nurse, how can I make a difference in the future of nursing?"

Darlene Webber of Noxapater, a first-year ADN student, was nominated by the ECCC nursing faculty for the Bobbie Anderson Scholarship.

Webber was also named ADN Representative to the MASN



Darlene Webber

which was earlier vacated. She will fulfill the role until the next convention.

Melissa Tindol of Philadelphia, a second-year student, was elected first vice president for the MASN in October. She recently attended the National Student Nurses Association Convention in Philadelphia, PA.

(Mississippi Association of Student Nurses) Board. She was named to the position

How can I make a difference in the future of nursing?

by Sonji Rose
Special to The Tom Tom

As an associate degree student at East Central Community College, I have been prepared to function in various roles as a registered nurse. This ever-changing environment requires constant informative learning.

My potential is to employ critical thinking in all clinical areas and apply logical problem solving techniques when new challenges are presented, by functioning as a leader and utilizing my good ideas, and by providing professional and com-

passionate patient care.

I believe in order to make a difference in the future of nursing, we must return to the basics of nursing. Although the above ideas may sound so simple in aspect, yet the difference these ideas can make are astounding.

Through my clinical experiences, I have noted numerous nurses who seem to forget what compassion can mean to another individual. These clients we care for are not only sick, they are human beings who all possess a need to be showed respect, love and care.

Although I will be fresh,

young and full of inexperience,

I believe the care I provide will make a difference in nursing.

Experience will come with years of opportunity and yet does experience mean anything if it does not coincide with the client's basic needs?

I believe by adopting the right attitude, by continuing to develop leadership and patient care skills, along with furthering my education, and also keeping the patient and their emotional needs first, these will all combine to make my difference in the future of nursing.



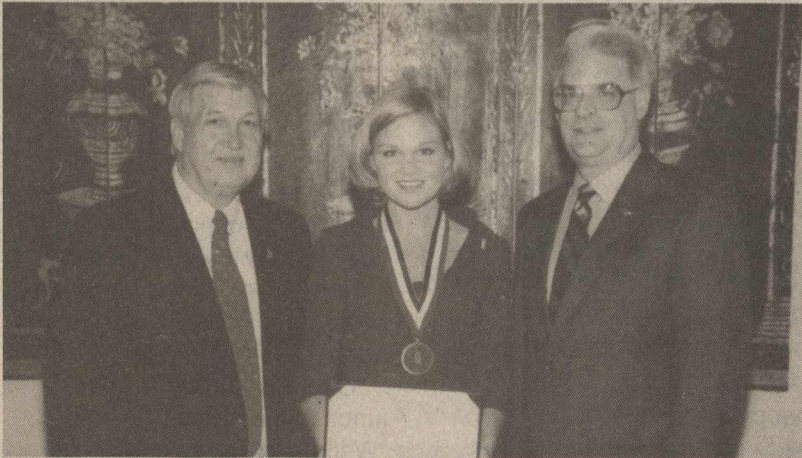
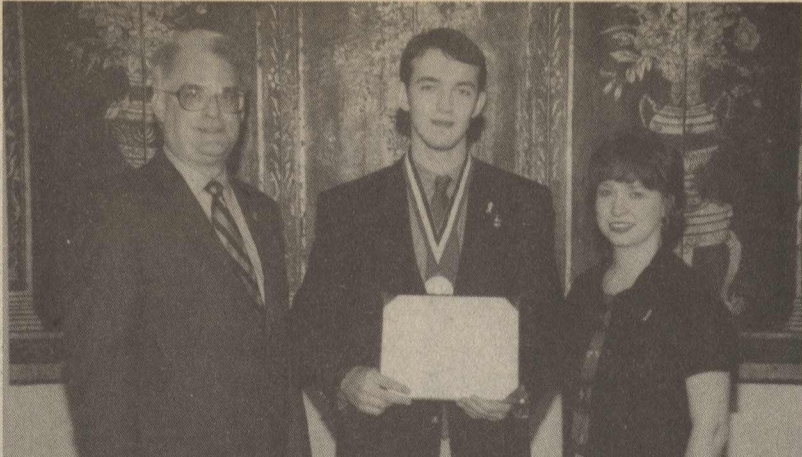
Cast of ECCC musical production 'Footloose'

The East Central Community College Players presented their spring musical production "Footloose" April 11-13 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium. Cast and crew included (first row, from left) Thomas Clark of Decatur, Megan Morrison and Janette Robinson, both of Edinburg; Chris Carson of Decatur, Kristen Thornton of Edinburg and Caleb Cook of Hickory; (second row, from left) Julie Weaver of Sebastopol, Ricardo Robinson of Decatur, Shanna Travis of Crystal Springs, Lisa Chamblee of Carthage, Megan Tramill of Newton and Adam Mann of Philadelphia; (third row, from left) Krystal Moore of Lake, Billy Cole of Union, Ura Seymer of Carthage, Billy McClurg of French Camp, Anthony Barfield of Philadelphia and Deidre Greer of Carthage; and (back row, from left) Paul Mason of Newton, Terrance Williamson of Conehatta, Kiel May of Vicksburg, Shalonda Buckley of Philadelphia, Casey Smith of Louisville and Laura Shook and Alyssa Ford, both of Newton. Regina Rigby of Forest served as director and Juanita West of Newton served as production director.



ECCC Students Win State Honors

These East Central Community College students won various honors at the Skills USA/VICA State Competition held in Biloxi. Seated from left are Nikki Rabon of Newton and Samantha Thomason of Philadelphia, who placed third in the Promotional Bulletin Board competition; Kimberly Hull of Meridian and Kimberly Taylor of Conehatta, second place, Cosmetology; and Mary Rush of Conehatta, second place, Job Skill Demonstration. Standing from left are Nathan Busby of Rosebud, second place, Carpentry; Farris Hopkins, Jr. of Louisville, elected state treasurer; Kenneth Robinson of Carthage, first place, Residential Wiring; Adam Foreman of Little Rock, second place, Major Appliance; and Melvin Shipp of Montrose, second place, Job Skill Demonstration. Not pictured are Kevin Pierce of Newton, first place, Industrial Controls; Joey Page of Forest, second place, Automotive Service, and Josh Baumunk of Philadelphia, third place, Collision Repair. Pierce, Robinson and Hopkins will compete in the National Skills USA Contest scheduled this summer in Knasas City, Missouri. ECCC instructors Lester Miles and John Everett serve as chapter advisors.



Named to All Mississippi Academic Teams

East Central Community College sophomore Matt Davis (top photo, center) of Decatur was recently named to the 2002 Phi Theta Kappa All-Mississippi Academic First Team and sophomore Lana Rogers (bottom photo, center) of Carthage was selected for the Second Team. The All-Mississippi Academic Team program is coordinated by the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society, The Clarion-Ledger, the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges and the Mississippi State Board for Community and Junior Colleges and recognizes the scholarly achievements and leadership accomplishments of students enrolled in the state's community and junior colleges. Davis, an engineering major, and Rogers, a music major with piano emphasis, both maintain a perfect 4.0 grade point average. The pair was recognized along with other award recipients by the Mississippi Legislature at the State Capitol and during a luncheon at the Clarion Hotel in Jackson, with Governor Ronnie Musgrove serving as featured speaker. State Senator Terry C. Burton served as master of ceremonies at the awards luncheon. Pictured with Davis are Dr. Shelby Harris (left), co-sponsor of ECCC's Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, and ECCC president Dr. Phil Sutphin. Shown with Rogers are Sutphin and Theta Xi co-sponsor Christy Ferguson. (Photos courtesy of Hinds Community College)



Presents Check to Fire Department

The Gibbstown/Lawrence Volunteer Fire Department received a financial boost thanks to the efforts of the VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) chapter at East Central Community College. Club president Heather Strait of Nanih Waiya is shown presenting a check in the amount of \$2300 to fire chief Kenneth Robinson, while sponsor Lester Miles (left) and Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, ECCC president, look on. Each year the College's VICA club presents a check to a fire department located within the ECCC five-county district.



MC officials visit campus

Interim president Dr. Lloyd Roberts (center) and other officials from Mississippi College recently visited the East Central Community College campus where they talked to students about the various educational opportunities that are available on the Clinton campus. Roberts is shown talking with ECCC sophomores Melissa Evans of Carthage (left) and Candice Cooper of Winston Academy.



Rushing speaks on domestic violence

Alexia Rushing (center) of Care Lodge in Meridian recently spoke to East Central Community College about domestic violence. The program was held in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. Pictured with Rushing are Myriam St. Clair (left), a freshman secondary education major from Newton, and Gloria Rigdon, college nurse.

Campus Daily Doings

If you attend college at East Central and you are not fat it is not the fault of all those organizations who have held recent bake sales. Cookies, cakes, pies, candy, you name it. How can anyone drop a few pounds when such a tempting array of goodies appear for sale every other day? The money raised goes for good causes. So, eat today and shed the pounds during summer vacation.

Saw the Saturday night performance of the musical. "Footloose" was a fun-filled frolic of footloose folks providing an evening of great enjoyment. The entire cast, crew and musicians deserve much applause for continuing the tradition of a spring musical on the EC campus. This was a show well worth seeing.

Compliments are in order for the Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. These students and their sponsors continue to win awards and bring a great deal of recognition to East Central. Just in case you didn't know, East Central's chapter was Mississippi's Most Outstanding chapter for the 2001-2002 college year. And speaking of the PTK, go down to the library sometime and take a peek at the room full of awards won by the chapter over the years.

"Spring has sprung and the grass has riz and I wonder where the flowers is." The flower boxes on campus are crying for a few colorful blooms. Those flower boxes always add a splash of color to the campus and visitors and students alike enjoy them when the plants are in bloom

The spring band concert was great, even if people did have to sit in each other's laps. The concert was great to watch and a pure delight to hear. East Central has a fine music faculty and members certainly deserved it when the audience put their hands together to show their appreciation. Let's hope that the schedule can be worked out so that the concert can be held in Huff Auditorium next year. The only fault with the concert was that we all, musicians and audience alike, needed room, room and more room.

A new master site plan has been drawn up for the East Central campus. If money ever becomes available to implement the projected campus improvements, East Central will have one of the most beautiful and user friendly campuses among American Community Colleges. The plan calls for outdoor meeting rooms, pavilions, water gardens, picnic areas, walking trails and an outdoor theater.

Coaches in all the sports played at East Central have signed some outstanding high school players. Everyone is optimistic about next year's athletic events. East Central should be in a position to offer some stiff competition and sports fans should have well coached teams of very capable athletes to watch.

Miss Lucille Wood is among those on the faculty who have received honors recently. She was presented the Red Rose Award by the Delta Kappa Gamma Society for her long time efforts to improve the teaching of health, recreation and physical education. Delta Kappa Gamma is a national organization of women teachers.

If you get hungry just stop by the desk of Karen Yates in the Public Information Office. She always has a candy jar on her desk and cookies in a sack under her desk. She is very generous and will gladly share these 'goodies' with anyone who professes to be hungry.

If you have trouble finding a summer job, just remember that East Central offers a full program of courses during the summer session. Taking advantage of summer school beats sitting at home doing nothing. So think about it, if you cannot expand your pocket book, you can expand your mind.



THE TOM TOM

Volume 56, Number 1

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

September, 2002

ECCC welcomes new staff for '02-'03

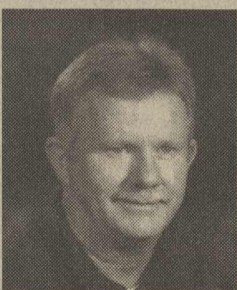
New personnel greeted East Central Community College students when the 2002 fall term began on August 12.

New faculty members include Billy Miles of Morton, physics/physical science instructor; Sharon LeJeune of Meridian, biology instructor; Danny Gressett of Decatur, machine shop technology instructor; Melvin Knowles, heating and air conditioning technology instructor; Patrick Black of Meridian, director/instructor for EMT-Paramedic Technology, a new program offered at the College; George Vaughn of Maysville, Kentucky, speech instructor; Tanya Boler of Conehatta, English instructor; and Len Bobo of Brandon, concert choir director.

Sylvia Bush of Newton, who served the past two years as the College's work-based learning coordinator, has assumed a new position following her selection as counselor for the vocational-technical division.

Other new staff members are Brenda Cheatham of Decatur, bookstore manager; Chri Clark, workforce development coordinator and Scotty Russell, temporary workforce development coordinator, both of Decatur; Jeff Hitt of Union, Work-Based Learning coordinator; Blake Warren of Sebastopol, coordinator/trainer for the College's Productivity Enhancement Lab located at the Philadelphia/Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center; Sharon Brooks of Carthage, vocational guidance counselor, Philadelphia/Neshoba County Vocational-Technical Center; Hilda Slaughter of Union, business office clerk; and Kimberly

Mott of Decatur, financial aid assistant.



Miles

for American Military University in Manassas, Virginia.

He is also a former instructor at West Point High School, Brandon Academy and Mendenhall High School.

A graduate of Brandon Academy, Miles attended East Central Junior College and Hinds Community College prior to receiving a bachelor's degree in science at Mississippi State University. He also holds a master's degree in science from Mississippi College.

He has two daughters, Katie and Diana.



LeJeune

science teacher at Meridian High School. She is also a former instructor at Kate Griffin Junior High and Carver Middle School in Meridian.

She is a graduate of Jeff Davis Academy in Meridian, East Mis-

issippi Community College in Scooba, and the University of West Alabama in Livingston, where she received a bachelor's degree in biology, a master's degree in the art of teaching with a concentration in biology, and the educational specialist's degree.

LeJeune has a daughter, Leslie.

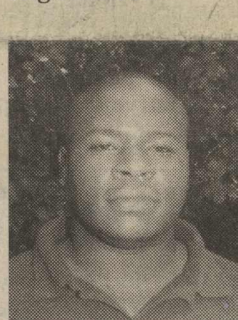


Gressett

interim machine shop instructor. He is also a former machine shop foreman/machinist at Meridian Machine Works, Inc.

He is a graduate of Beulah Hubbard High School and East Central Community College, where he received an Associate in Applied Science degree in machine shop technology.

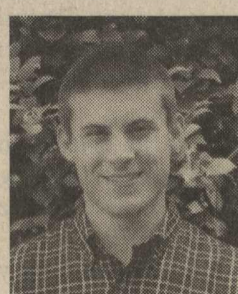
He is married to the former Kathy Glenn of Decatur and they have two children. Allison is a freshman at ECCC and Corey is a sophomore at Newton County High School.



Knowles

is also a former staff member at Tyson Foods Processing Plant in Forest, La-Z-Boy Furniture Company in Newton, and The Service Company in Meridian.

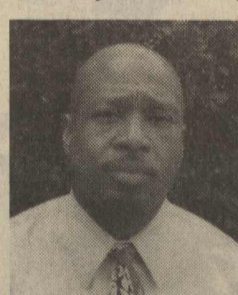
He is a graduate of Louisville High School and East Central Community College, where he received an associate in applied science degree in heating and air conditioning technology.



Black

He is a graduate of Long Beach High School and completed EMT courses at East Mississippi Community College (Mayhew campus) and at Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He also holds a bachelor's degree in biological sciences at Mississippi State University.

Black is married to the former Jennifer Pytko of El Paso, Texas, and they have a son, Patrick, Jr.



Vaughn

of English. He also served as Phi Theta Kappa advisor.

He is a former graduate assistant in the Office of Minority Student Affairs at Moorhead State University in Kentucky.

Vaughn studied criminal justice at Jackson State University and later earned a bachelor's degree in English from Toulaloo College. He holds a master's degree in English from Moorehead State University, where he has also completed 18 graduate hours in communications.

He recently attended the Kellogg Institute's National Center for Developmental Education held at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, where he received training in assessment and placement, teaching and learning, academic support services, program evaluation and outcome assessment.

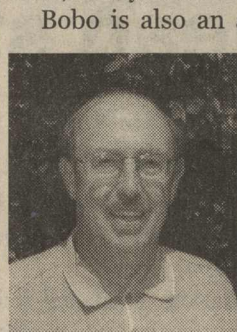


Boler

She is also a former faculty member at Philadelphia and Newton County high schools. In addition, she has served ECCC as an adjunct faculty member.

She is a graduate of Union High School, East Central Community College and Mississippi State University, where she received bachelor and master's degrees in English. She is currently pursuing a specialist's degree.

She is married to Ricky Boler and they have two children, Corey and Aislin.



Bobo

Bobo is also an adjunct professor of organ and serves as organist at Millsaps College in Jackson. He is a former visiting professor of music at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. In addition, he has held teaching positions at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas, and at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where he began his teaching career in 1975. He taught on the community college level at Garland County Community College in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

He currently serves as director of music and organist at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Jackson. He is a former associate director of music, organist and director of The Music and Arts Institute at First Presbyterian Church in Pine Bluff, Ark. He has 30 years experience in church music. Among honors received include his selection as Distinguished Alumnus by the music faculty at Mississippi College. He was named to Who's Who in the World, Who's Who in America, Who's Who in Entertainment and Who's Who in American Music. In addition, he is a recipient of the Arkansas Federation of Music Clubs' Arkansas Church Musician of the Year award.

Bobo has four published compositions to his credit and has done numerous commissioned compositions for various choral groups.

Bobo is a graduate of Warren Central High School, Hinds Junior College; Mississippi College, where he received a bachelor of music degree; and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where he received a master of music degree. He has completed additional studies at UT.

He is married to the former Pamela Jeannie Moore and they have two daughters, Celeste and Brittany.



Bush

College in Moorhead. She earlier served MDCC as a counselor. She also has teaching and counseling experience on the high school level. In all, she brings 30 years experience in the field of education to her new position.

She is a graduate of Carthage High School and received an associate in arts degree from ECCC and earned a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State College for Women and a master's degree from Mississippi State University. She has com-

pleted additional graduate work at Delta State University.

Bush and her husband, Thomas, have two sons, Todd and Ken.

Cheatham is a former secretary at Philadelphia High School. She also has experience in the banking business, having served as a



Cheatham

customer specialist and customer service representative. She is a graduate of East Central Community College, where she received an AA degree in business education.

Cheatham is married to the Steve Cheatham, an assistant football coach at ECCC. They have a daughter, Lindsey, a

See STAFF, page 4

Hall named editor of The Tom Tom

Jimmy Hall, a returning sophomore, was recently chosen as editor of the *Tom Tom*, a student publication of East Central Community College.

Hall, son of Johnny and Kathy Hall of Lena, is a 2001 graduate of Leake Academy where he served as editor of the *Rebel Yell*, photographer for the yearbook, Vice-President of SADD, Secretary of Beta Club, President of his class, and Secretary of the Student Council.

Hall is also very active in campus activities at East Central. He serves as the Student Body Association Vice-President, Mississippi/Louisiana Regional President of Phi Theta Kappa and Environmental Club Vice-President. He is also an active member of Warrior Corps and Mu Alpha Theta.

Hall was selected to attend the Phi Theta Kappa National Honors Institute in Greenville, South Carolina and the Mini Honors Institute at Millsaps



Jimmy Hall

College in Jackson.

This past May, Hall received the Margaret Mosal Award for Leadership.

He plans to obtain the Bachelor of Nursing Degree from the University of Mississippi and later become a Nurse Anesthetist.

Kenna selected assistant editor

Freshman Drew Kenna of Forest was recently selected assistant editor of the East Central Community College campus newspaper, *The Tom Tom*.

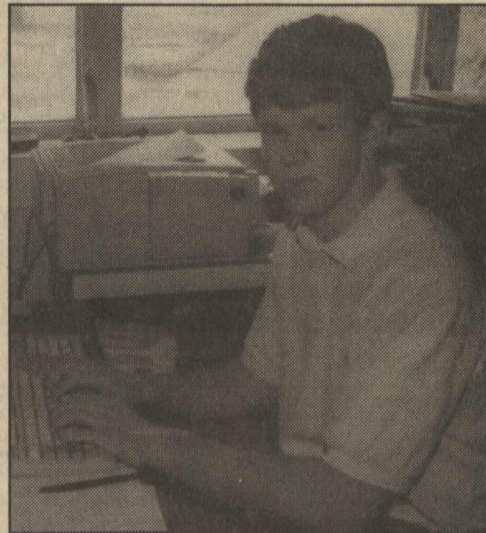
An honor graduate of Forest High School, Kenna was named to the FHS Hall of Fame and was selected Mr. Forest High School.

He served as president of the FHS Student Body, the National Honor Society and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

He was a member of the Beta Club, varsity choir, Madrigal singers and First Priority.

Kenna is a graduate of the Mississippi Governor's School.

A four-year letterman for the FHS baseball team, Kenna was named co-captain and most valuable player. He was named All-Scott County, All-Division



Drew Kenna

and second team All-State. He was selected for the 2002 Mississippi All-Star game. He will continue his athletic career as a member of the ECCC Diamond Warrior baseball team.

Kenna is a member of Forest Baptist Church and plans to participate in the ECCC Baptist Student Union.



ECCC Honors Retired Administrator

East Central Community College officially named its South Campus Classroom Building for retired administrator Frank. T. Rives during a ceremony held August 13 on the Decatur campus. Rives (center) retired in 1986 following 33 years of service at ECCC. The Decatur resident served most of his tenure as either dean of admissions, records and research or registrar. He began his employment at East Central in 1953 as a math and physics instructor. He is also a former instructor at Southwest Mississippi Community College and was a teacher and coach at Union High School. A Leake County native, Rives is a graduate of Lena High School, Clarke College, Mississippi College and the University of Mississippi. He is shown with his wife, the former Mary Lowery of Forest, and ECCC President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, in front of the Frank T. Rives Educational Building.

Hypnotist, picnic on the mall highlight EC“Welcome Back Week”

By: Jimmy Hall
Tom Tom Editor

Each year, “Welcome Back Week” brings new and returning students together for a week filled with fun and entertainment. Many new students may feel out of place or uncertain of what to expect when they first arrive at East Central, but “Welcome Back Week” hopefully makes them feel welcome and at home. Participation at the beginning of the week is typically low, but each year it continually picks up as the week progresses. This year was no exception.



Chris Huff of Forest thinks he is a ballet dancer during the annual Hynotist show held during Welcome Back Week.

The week was kicked off on Monday with “Melon and Games on the Field.” On this night, everyone was invited to go to the Intramural Field to eat watermelon and to participate in various relay games. Although only a small crowd turned out, everyone had fun. There was more than enough watermelon for everyone to eat, so a few people decided that it would be fun to have a watermelon eating contest. Everyone would most definitely agree that this was the highlight of the night. Brad Sutphin was one of those participants and wasted no time putting away his pieces of watermelon. He had devoured much of the watermelon within just the first minute. He definitely did not want to lose this competition, but his opponent was not giving up easily. She had caught up with him after just a few minutes. In the end, it was too hard to determine who had won, so everyone just decided to call it a tie. The fun continued on Tuesday night when a band performed. Everyone was invited to come by throughout the evening to listen and relax.



Colonel Wallington convinces these students under hypnosis that this broom stick is very, very heavy!

On Wednesday night, the largest crowd of the week turned out to see the hypnotist. This has become an East Central tradition. This hypnotist has performed each year since 1970. For those who were skeptical about hypnosis, this night put an end to any doubts that they might have. At the beginning of the night, everyone that wanted to try to become hypnotized was asked to follow certain steps. If these people followed each of these steps seriously, they were hypnotized. Ten people that were hypnotized were brought onto the stage to entertain the audience by performing different acts. For example, the people under hypnosis were led to believe that Superman came flying through the room. They were also led to believe that they were great ballet dancers performing in a ballet competition. This night was definitely the best night of the week for many. On Thursday, “Meet the Players and Picnic on the Mall” was held. The afternoon began with a meal, consisting of the cafeteria’s famous fish, hush puppies, French fries and cole slaw. After everyone had finished eating,



Students enjoy Mabry Cafeteria’s famous fried catfish during the Welcome Back Week picnic on the mall.

“The Buzz from Student Services” New process for absentee appeals

By: Vickie Powe
Tom Tom Reporter

Having fun, studying hard and placing first are just a few of the expectations Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, has for the 2002 fall semester! “Primarily, I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable semester. Secondly, I expect all athletic and academic teams to place first at competition. And finally, I urge all students to have a little fun mixed with a little studying!” Tuition increases and budget cuts have a been factors that Killens and members of his staff have dealt with throughout the year. This semester will be no different, however, Killens stressed the fact that East Central is still the “best buy for your money,” being significantly lower than most other colleges. “As tuition increases,” said Killens, “so do funds for ACT, Salutatorian, Valedictorian and other special scholarships.” He added, “Although tuition increases have been felt by everyone, budget cuts are a different story. We feel that our students should not be penalized because of budget cuts and because of the preparedness of our instructors, students should see very few effects in the classroom.” One other change in the Student Services area is the absentee appeals process. In the past, if a student was cut out of a class, the long process of of an appeals committee hearing was before him or her. Now, with the proper excuse and verification, students may bypass the committee in some cases and the decision will be made by the Vice President for Student Services. Killens explained, “I will verify the excuse, contact the instructor, have the student sign a form pledging to never miss another class during the semester and then determine whether or not to reinstate the student into the class in question. “If the student is unsatisfied with the decision, he or she still has the right and the option for the appeals committee hearing.” In addition to the routine duties the VP for Student Services has, Killens is also preparing for the annual Student Council Association of Mississippi Conference which will be hosted by East Central Community College September 23-24 on the Decatur campus. Look for other news from Student Services, including upcoming activities, in future issues of The Tom Tom.

Phi Theta Kappa Hosts “Movie Night” on campus

By: Jimmy Hall
Tom Tom Editor

East Central’ Community College’s Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa hosted movie night in Vickers Auditorium on August 21 with the showing of “A Beautiful Mind.” More than 25 students turned out for the movie which was inspired by the events in the life of mathematician John Forbes Nash Jr., as portrayed by Russell Crowe.

The Tom-Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, MS. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the Public Information staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 242.

Accreditation

East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. The college is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

Staff members include editor Jimmy Hall, assistant editor Drew Kenna, and Joshua Hall, Amy Haralson, Ardria Harris, Vicki Powe, Jenna Talbert, Shaletha Wade and SHUwaski Young. Sponsors are Bubby Johnston and Maria McLeod.

Mississippians urged to “Fight the Bite”

Mississippi public health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention workers are asking citizens of Mississippi to roll up their sleeves to help all Mississippians “Fight the Bite.” Through a door-to-door survey, the state and federal public health workers aim to learn more about West Nile virus and how people can protect themselves now and in the future. Their questions will focus on factors in the home or work place that might increase or reduce the risk of an individual’s getting West Nile virus infection. Teams of two will visit households selected at random or by chance; they will wear official Mississippi State Department of Health identification badges. Only randomly selected households will be interviewed. Participation in the survey is voluntary. To answer the questions will take about 20 to 30 minutes. All information will remain strictly confidential. People who agree to participate in the survey will get a free blood test for exposure to the West Nile virus. Only qualified medical personnel will draw the blood. Participants will get their results within a few months. Results of this survey will help the Mississippi State Department of Health learn about risk factors for mosquito exposure, why some people exposed to West Nile virus get sick, and the long-term health effects of West Nile virus. For more information on this survey or on West Nile virus, citizens may call the Mississippi State Department of Health West Nile Hotline at 1-877-WST-NILE (1-877-978-6453). Extensive information is also available on the Mississippi State Department of Health website at www.msdh.state.ms.us. **FIGHT THE BITE! PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR COMMUNITY:**

ment of Health learn about risk factors for mosquito exposure, why some people exposed to West Nile virus get sick, and the long-term health effects of West Nile virus. For more information on this survey or on West Nile virus, citizens may call the Mississippi State Department of Health West Nile Hotline at 1-877-WST-NILE (1-877-978-6453). Extensive information is also available on the Mississippi State Department of Health website at www.msdh.state.ms.us. **FIGHT THE BITE! PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR COMMUNITY:**

- Avoid mosquitos wherever possible.
- Stay indoors or take personal protective measures, especially between dusk and dawn.
- Use mosquito repellent with DEET (10 to 30 percent for adults and lower concentrations of 10 percent or less for children as recommended by American Academy of Pediatrics). Follow label directions.
- Wear long-sleeved, long-legged clothing with socks and shoes outdoors when practical.
- Reduce the breeding source—the most effective and economical method toward long-term mosquito control.

A head start with Tech Prep Education

By: Jenna Talbert
Tom Tom Reporter

How do students get a head start on a career? Perhaps Tech Prep is the answer. A combination of specialized teaching strategies and career awareness education, Tech Prep is designed to prepare students for high-paying technical jobs without the many years of attending college. A partnership between schools and businesses and industries, Tech Prep gives students the opportunity to gain work-site experience before finishing high school. This experience leads to better paying jobs with satisfied employers, which is a key element for success. “Mississippi stresses a ‘2+2’ educational program which includes two years of career training in high school and community college,” said Sandra Amis, Tech Prep Coordinator for East Central Community College. Implemented in 1992, Tech Prep has grown to encompass 218 school districts. This number includes 12 high schools and seven middle schools in East Central’s district alone. There are approximately 300 specially trained teachers and counselors in the ECCC district. A seven through twelfth grade program, Tech Prep begins with a Career Discovery course for seventh graders. The course promotes career exploration and educational planning while developing basic skills such as human relations and problem solving. “Career Discovery is an interesting class. It’s a great way for kids to realize what they need to focus on,” said Tanya Boler, an English teacher at East Central who was formerly involved in Tech Prep education at Philadelphia High School. A focal point of the Tech Prep program is the teacher training it provides. Teachers receive instruction on how to apply academics and integrate technology into the classroom. Even after their initial training, teachers are left with recourse. “I provide teacher/counselor training in the Mississippi curriculum frameworks, the subject area testing program and teaching strategies,” said Amis. An extra benefit for teachers is that almost all of the professional development provided by Tech Prep awards CEU credit for teacher license renewal. Boler, who underwent a week of training, said, “Making teachers more aware of their responsibility to not only educate but to prepare students for a career, is going to have a great impact.” The majority of Tech Prep’s funding comes from state funds. Tech Prep also receives federal funding, though not on the same level as state funds. Through the Carl Perkins Legislation, the Mississippi State Board of Education allots 1.4 million dollars annually to Tech Prep. This money is used to pay for state of the art technology and occupational programs, as well as a percentage of teacher and counselor salaries. In the past five years alone, \$140 million dollars has been spent on technology for the classroom integrating new machines for the industry world. Just this year Tech Prep at East Central helped sponsor the Technology Conference, the Business, Education and Healthcare Expo and Senior Days. Tech Prep is celebrating its ten-year anniversary in Mississippi this year. When asked how she felt about the success of it, Amis said, “I’m excited about it. It has rough times like any program, but it’s been very successful.”

are approximately 300 specially trained teachers and counselors in the ECCC district. A seven through twelfth grade program, Tech Prep begins with a Career Discovery course for seventh graders. The course promotes career exploration and educational planning while developing basic skills such as human relations and problem solving. “Career Discovery is an interesting class. It’s a great way for kids to realize what they need to focus on,” said Tanya Boler, an English teacher at East Central who was formerly involved in Tech Prep education at Philadelphia High School. A focal point of the Tech Prep program is the teacher training it provides. Teachers receive instruction on how to apply academics and integrate technology into the classroom. Even after their initial training, teachers are left with recourse. “I provide teacher/counselor training in the Mississippi curriculum frameworks, the subject area testing program and teaching strategies,” said Amis. An extra benefit for teachers is that almost all of the professional development provided by Tech Prep awards CEU credit for teacher license renewal. Boler, who underwent a week of training, said, “Making teachers more aware of their responsibility to not only educate but to prepare students for a career, is going to have a great impact.” The majority of Tech Prep’s funding comes from state funds. Tech Prep also receives federal funding, though not on the same level as state funds. Through the Carl Perkins Legislation, the Mississippi State Board of Education allots 1.4 million dollars annually to Tech Prep. This money is used to pay for state of the art technology and occupational programs, as well as a percentage of teacher and counselor salaries. In the past five years alone, \$140 million dollars has been spent on technology for the classroom integrating new machines for the industry world. Just this year Tech Prep at East Central helped sponsor the Technology Conference, the Business, Education and Healthcare Expo and Senior Days. Tech Prep is celebrating its ten-year anniversary in Mississippi this year. When asked how she felt about the success of it, Amis said, “I’m excited about it. It has rough times like any program, but it’s been very successful.”

as a percentage of teacher and counselor salaries. In the past five years alone, \$140 million dollars has been spent on technology for the classroom integrating new machines for the industry world. Just this year Tech Prep at East Central helped sponsor the Technology Conference, the Business, Education and Healthcare Expo and Senior Days. Tech Prep is celebrating its ten-year anniversary in Mississippi this year. When asked how she felt about the success of it, Amis said, “I’m excited about it. It has rough times like any program, but it’s been very successful.”

Wellness Programs Offered By The Student Health Center

September 19 - “Sexually Transmitted Diseases”
April York, Disease Intervention Specialist
Mississippi Department of Health
10:45 to 11:20 a.m. in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium

September 23 - “Blood Drive”
United Blood Services
Blood Mobile in the Mall Area
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

October 17 - “Domestic Violence”
Cynthia Granger
Care Lodge
10:45 to 11:20 a.m. in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium

November
“Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure & Cholesterol Screenings”
Flu Shots
Rush Workforce Wellness
TBA

December 2
“Blood Drive”
United Blood Services
Blood Mobile in the Mall Area
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SPORTS

Warriors entertain Holmes in opener

By: Drew Kenna
Tom Tom Assistant Editor

The East Central Community College Warrior football program has put together three straight winning seasons, but will go for a fourth with only six starters returning from last year's team.

In addition to the returning six, 18 other sophomores join them on the squad. Thirty-one talented freshmen finalize the unit.

Head coach Terry Underwood said, "The sophomores provided great leadership during the off-season and the freshmen have responded well."

Last year's team had a record of 6-3 overall and 4-2 in the South Division. A loss to Mississippi Delta in the semi-finals of the state playoffs has inspired the Warriors to work hard.

"This year we want to raise the bar," Underwood said. "We are looking to get off to a good start."

A last-second field goal kept the Warriors from advancing to the state title game in 2001. Underwood said East Central learned a lot from the 10-7 loss at Mississippi Delta, and hopes that learning experience will lead to another shot at the state championship.

"We had a successful season last year and qualified for the playoffs for the second time in three years. Our goal is obviously to win a state championship, and the coaches and players are working hard to achieve that goal," Underwood said.

The 2001 Warriors also had one of the state's top offensive units. EC finished second in rushing offense, averaging 211.4 yards per contest. The Warriors were sixth in overall offense with a 329.2-yard average.

Underwood said the Warrior offense should again be successful, thanks to a stronger offensive line.

"I would have to say that our main strength on offense is our offensive line. These guys are really doing a great job and represent one of the strongest groups we have had here. I have also been pleased with our quarterback, running backs and wide receivers," he stated.

Top offensive returnees include linemen Demarcus Granger (6-3, 282) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.)

County, Rudy Su'e (6-1, 298) of Escambia High School, Pensacola, Fla., and Marcel Binion (6-3, 300) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) Central; wide receiver Marcus Hibbler (5-9, 174) of Louisville; running back Ramon Williams (5-10, 220) of Brookwood (Ala.) High School; fullback Wesley Wright (5-10, 220) of Winston Academy; and quarterback Kevin Stephens (5-11, 189) of Charles Henderson High School in Troy, Alabama.

Underwood said Stevens has had a good preseason at signal caller.

"Kevin throws well, is very intelligent, makes smart decisions and is a good athlete. He was mainly a backup to Brian Zbydniowski last year but is now ready to run the offense," Underwood stated.

He added the running game is in good hands with Williams and Wright, who are also having an effective pre-season.

The ECCC head mentor said the Warriors are again blessed with a speedy receiving corps, led by Hibbler and freshmen Titus Ryan (6-2, 185) of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, Ronald Smith (6', 176) of Daphne, Ala., and Van Wilson (6-1, 192) of West Lauderdale. Ryan won the 100-meter competition in high school last year in Alabama.

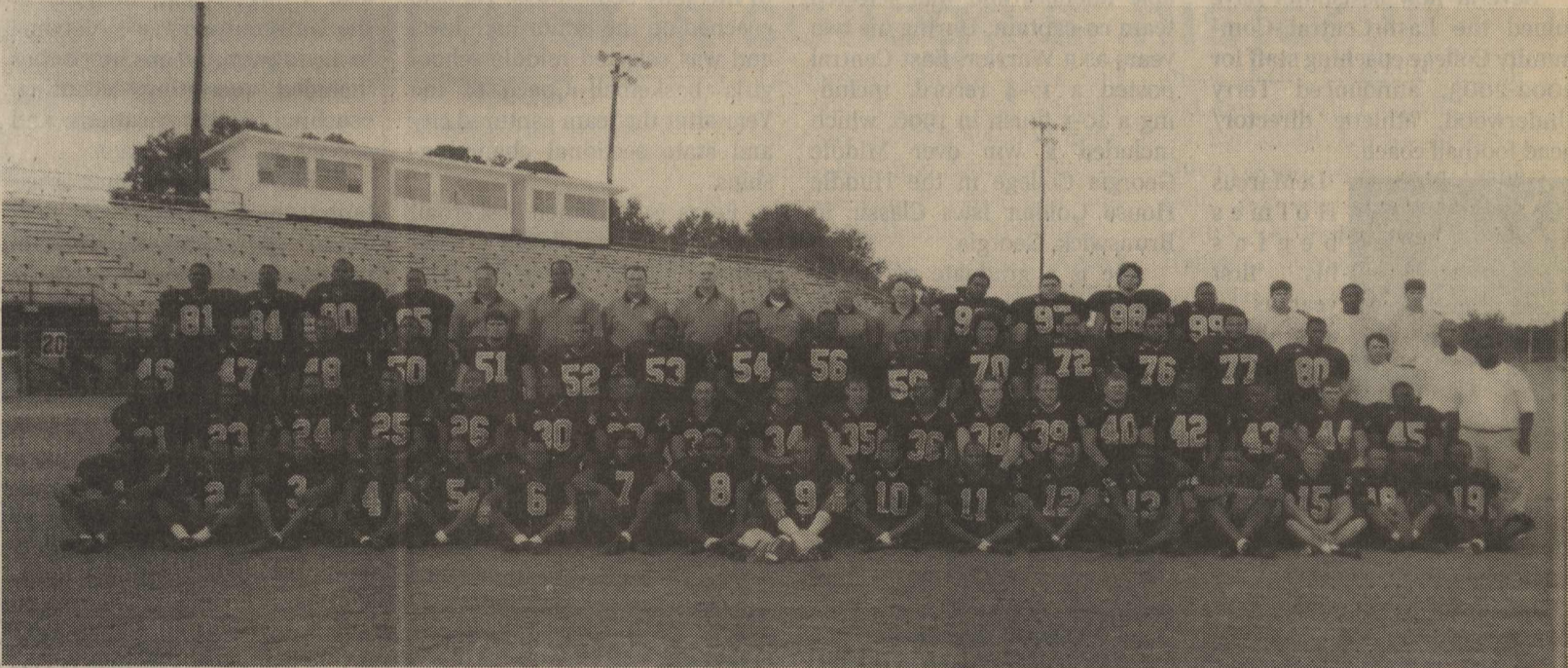
Underwood said the strength of the defense is team speed.

"Our secondary will be very fast. Three of our defensive starters- cornerbacks Pete McBride (5-9, 170) of Forest and Jarvis Lymon (5-10, 185) of Foley, Ala., and linebacker Josh Viverette (5-10, 172) of Lake had the fastest times in the 40-yard dash at a combine held at East Mississippi last spring. McBride ran a 4.38; Lymon, a 4.42; and Viverette, 4.5," he stated.

Other top defensive returnees are linebackers Stacey Lewis (6', 240) of Neshoba Central and Travares Osley (6'1, 220) of Hueytown, Ala.

The defensive front will include returnees Arrion Triplett (6', 270) and Ken Triplett (6-5, 245), both of Louisville, and Michael Wells (6-2, 270) and freshman Corey Hayes (5-11, 312), both of Forest.

"Overall, I really feel very good about this team, even though we do not have as much depth as we did last year. They are a great group of young men," Under-



2002 ECCC Warrior Football Team

Members of the East Central Community College football team for the 2002 season include (first row, from left) linebacker (1) Stacey Lewis, Neshoba Central; cornerback (2) Pete McBride of Forest; linebacker (3) Travares Osley, Hueytown, Alabama; cornerback (4) Jarvis Lymon, Foley, Alabama; free safety (5) Adrian Eiland, Louisville; strong safety (6) Jock Loper, Newton County; defensive end (7) Ken Triplett, Louisville; defensive tackle (8) Arrion Triplett, Louisville; wide receiver (9) Marcus Hibbler, Louisville; quarterback/wide receiver (10) Reggie Rice, Tuscaloosa Central, Alabama; cornerback (11) Justin Smith, Newton County; wide receiver (12) Ronald Smith, Daphne, Alabama; defensive end (13) Corey Moore, Noxapater; quarterback (14) Kevin Warner, Louisville, Kentucky; quarterback (15) Kevin Stephens, Troy, Alabama; strong safety (18) Chungkil Page, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; and wide receiver (19) Van Wilson, West Lauderdale; (second row, from left) cornerback (21) Laron Yarbrough, Louisville; fullback (23) Germaine Smith, Newton County; linebacker (24) Stephen Goodlow, Forest; linebacker (25) Kenji Brown, Philadelphia; strong safety (26) John Hope, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; running back (30) Derek Carter, Noxapater; running back (32) Kentay Eiland, Louisville; fullback (33) Horace Glenn, Louisville; running back (34) Ramon Williams, Brookwood, Alabama; punter (35) Jeremiah Gillette, Winston Academy; cornerback (36) Mario White, Noxapater; linebacker (38) Lee Fairchilds, Morton; kicker/punter (39) Jacob Swayze, Olive Branch; fullback (40) Wesley Wright, Winston Academy; linebacker (42) Josh Viverette, Lake; tight end (43) Ed Hutt, Tuscaloosa Central, Alabama; tight end (44) John Williams, Forest; and defensive tackle (45) Michael Wells, Forest; (third row, from left) free safety (46) Ken Shields, Louisville; linebacker (47) Marcus Cleveland, Morton; linebacker (49) Ray Harvey, Morton; center (50) LeAndrew McDonald, Philadelphia; center (51) Ryan Thompson, Louisville; defensive tackle (52) Dennis Harris, Morton; offensive tackle (53) Tyrone Barrett, Belleglade, Florida; offensive guard (54) Demarcus Granger, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; offensive guard (56) Michael Wright, Newton; offensive guard (59) Covaris Grant, Columbus; offensive guard (70) Rudy Su'e, Pensacola, Florida; offensive tackle (72) Marcel Binion, Tuscaloosa Central, Alabama; offensive tackle (76) Jason Graffenread, Forest; offensive tackle (77) Davis Carter, Louisville; wide receiver (80) Bobby Lindsey, Newton; and managers Hardy Gross, Leake Academy; Terrance Anderson, Nanih Waiya; and Courtney Smith, Louisville; and (top row, from left) wide receiver (81) Titus Ryan, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; wide receiver (84) John Cole, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; defensive lineman (90) J.E. Haynes, Noxapater; linebacker (95) Russell Bennett, Forest; head coach Terry Underwood; assistant coaches Fred Lyons, Tommy Clopton, Tim Coats, DeMarcus Holmes and Steve Cheatham; athletic trainer Joey McLeod; defensive lineman (96) Jed Wright, Newton; defensive tackle (97) Chris Allen, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama; defensive end (98) Adam Wright, Winston Academy; defensive tackle (99) Corey Hayes, Forest; and managers Ben Wilbanks, Leake Academy; Terrance Griffith, Louisville; and Brook

wood said.

Underwood, who is beginning his fifth year as head coach, also serves as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. Members of his coaching staff include Tim Coats, assistant head coach, offensive coordinator and receivers coach; Fredrick Lyons, defensive line; Tommy Clopton, offensive line and tight ends; Steve Cheatham, defensive backs and special teams coordinator; and DeMarcus Holmes, running backs.

East Central begins the 2002 season by hosting Holmes Community College on Thursday, September 5. Kickoff is set for 6:30 p.m. in Warrior Stadium.

All ECCC football games can be heard on WSSI-FM (98.3) in Carthage, featuring veteran sportscaster Mike Goodwin.

(The Public Information Office contributed to this report.)



2002 ECCC Soccer Team

Members of the 2002 East Central Community College Warrior soccer team and their respective high schools include (seated from left) midfielder (2) Johnathan Shoemaker, Newton County; defender (3) John May, Newton County; midfielder (4) Brandon Ditto, Brandon; defender (5) Chris Stevens, Northeast Lauderdale; defender (6) Nate Alexander, Corinth; midfielder (7) Kyle Miller of Neshoba Central; and midfielder (8) John Theobald, St. Aloysius; (kneeling from left) midfielder (9) Beau Theobald, St. Aloysius; forward (11) Ricky Archuleta, Richland; sweeper (12) Justin Sendelweck, Brandon; defender (15) Charles Goodwin, Raleigh; midfielder (16) Robbie Phillipson, Morton; defender (17) Chuck Holmes, Brandon; forward (18) Seltue Karweaye, Liberia, West Africa; and defender (19) Jay Jacobs, Northeast Lauderdale; and (standing from left) assistant coach Roy Pete, head coach Kenneth Thompson, keeper Corey Kemp, Corinth; keeper Mark Walker, Newton County; and managers Colin Smith, Forest, and Amanda Wilcher, Edinburg.

ECCC Soccer Warriors to be much improved, more competitive in 2002

By: Shuwaski Young
Tom Tom Reporter

The East Central soccer team is eagerly awaiting the 2002 season after completing the 2001 season with a third place finish in the South Division with a 4-3-1 mark and a 6-8-1 overall record.

"This year the players and coaches are concentrating not only on making it to the division tournament, but going all the way to win it," said Seltue Karweaye, a sophomore player from Liberia, West Africa.

Karweaye, who finished last season as the fifth leading scorer in the division and eighth in the state, is one of many on the team who are excited about the upcoming season.

Brandon Ditto of Brandon, also a sophomore, said, "We're looking pretty good this year. We have a lot more leadership on the team and plan to come out strong."

Head coach Kenneth Thompson, who seems to be more excited than anyone, said, "Everyone on the team will be quicker, more skillful and all over the field."

Thompson said top returnees include Karweaye and Ditto, who were both honorable mention All-Staters.

Thompson anticipates Karweaye to have another outstanding season.

"Seltue can potentially be one of the most dominating players in the entire league this year. We are expecting a lot out of him from his forward position," Thompson said.

Ditto was the seventh leading scorer in the division and placed 15th in the state from his attacking midfield position.

He is also expecting a strong performance from Ditto.

"We are depending on Brandon to be our playmaker in setting up shots on goals. He will obviously be a key to our success," Thompson added.

Other top returnees include sweeper Justin Sendelweck of Brandon, wing Kyle Miller of Neshoba Central, midfielders Johnathan Shoemaker of Newton County and Charlie Goodwin of Raleigh, and defender and team captain Nate Alexander and keeper Corey Kemp, both of Corinth.

Regarding the 2002 recruiting class, Thompson said, "The freshman class is a talented group that will really help us make a run for the playoffs. They are athletic and skillful, and I look forward to working with them for the next two years."

Thompson said the team to beat in South Division is Gulf Coast, which has won the division all three years East Central has been a member of the league. However, he expects the Soccer Warriors to again be competitive

with the highly touted Bulldogs.

"Last year Gulf Coast went 7-0-1 in the South and finished 12-1-1 overall in regular season action. We were the only team to take them to overtime, which we did twice. We tied them once in double overtime in Decatur and lost in double overtime on their field. Our sophomores are excited about playing them this year," he said.

Joining the South Division for the first time is Meridian Community College, a new member of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges. MCC finished fifth in the nation last year, and Thompson said this year's squad is again filled with talented players.

Pearl River, which slipped into playoffs by just a few points ahead of East Central, should have another strong team, Thompson noted.

Remaining South Division members Jones County and Copiah-Lincoln are also expected to show improvement in 2002.

Hinds, which has won state and North Division titles the three years East Central has competed in soccer, is again considered the division favorite. Other North Division members include Itawamba, East Mississippi, Mississippi Delta, Holmes-Ridgeland and newcomer Northwest. (The Public Information Office contributed to this report.)

Class Officer Election Results

Freshman Class:
President-Rick Lachney
Vice President-Ashley Fleming
Secretary-Jennifer Carson
Treasurer-Samantha Partridge

Sophomore Class:
President-Charles Wood
Vice President-David Burt
Secretary-Jamie Stewart
Treasurer-Vickie Powe

5

3

+

=

6

7

+

=

Math Lab

Located in Ethridge Hall, Room 2

Hours of Operation
Monday & Wednesday- Noon to 3 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday- 1 to 3 p.m.

Staffed by East Central Mathematics Faculty
Help Available for All Math Courses

See Soccer and Football Schedules on Page 4!

ATTN: STUDENTS
\$15.00 To Start
Flexible Full-Time & Part-Time Hours
Interview in Jackson, MS to work in Meridian
(601) 989-9285
www.workforstudents.com

EC Coaching Staff Welcomes New Assistants

Several new assistants have joined the East Central Community College coaching staff for 2002-2003, announced Terry Underwood, athletic director/head football coach.



Holmes
DeMarcus Holmes begins his first year as an assistant to Underwood. He previously served on the coaching staff at the University of Arkansas-Monticello.

He is a former standout lineman at Western A&M University in Canyon, Texas, where he was named to the Lone Star Conference honorable mention team.

He also had a stellar career as a member of the 1996 and 1997 ECCC squads. He was named first team, NJCAA All-American; second team, J.C. Grid Wire All-American; first team, All-Region 23; first team, All-State; and most valuable lineman, MACJC South Division. He was also chosen the Warriors' most valu-

able lineman and was selected team co-captain. During his two years as a Warrior, East Central posted a 17-4 record, including a 10-1 finish in 1996, which included a win over Middle Georgia College in the Huddle House Golden Isles Classic in Brunswick, Georgia.

He is a graduate of Louisville High School, ECCC and is completing requirements for a degree in health and wellness from the University of Arkansas-Monticello.



Fears
Derrick Fears is the new assistant for Billy Smith, men's head basketball coach. Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Fears was a teacher/coach at Ridgeway High School in Memphis, TN. He served as an assistant high school basketball coach and helped lead the boys' team to the 2001-2002 state championship. That same year the girls' squad advanced

to the state semi-finals. He also coached on the junior high level and was selected middle school girls' basketball Coach of the Year after the team captured city and state sectional championships.

Fears is a former basketball standout, having played professionally for two seasons in Portugal. He also had stellar careers at Mississippi College, Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville and Trezevant High School in Memphis.

He received an associate of arts degree from Northeast and has a bachelor's degree in business/communication and a master's degree in communication from MC.



Harris
Betsy Harris is a first-year assistant to Brad Hodge, women's head basketball coach. Harris previously served as an assistant coach/recruiter at Troy State University in Troy, Ala. She is

also a former staff member at the University of West Alabama in Livingston, where her duties included recruiting, scouting, coaching, public relations and serving as strength coach.

She is also a former assistant at the Fitness and Wellness Center at Anderson's Hospital in Meridian. In addition, Harris has several years experience as an instructor at various college, high school and junior high basketball camps.

Harris was an All-State performer at Decatur High School and helped lead the Lady Warrior basketball team to the 1990 state championship. She also earned All-State and All-South State honors.

She continued her athletic career at the University of Alabama and led the Lady Tide to the Final Four in 1994. Honors she received that year include her selection as the most valuable player in the Midwest Regional Championship. She was also chosen second team All-Southeastern Conference.

Harris is regarded as one of the top three-point shooters in college basketball. She holds the record for most three-pointers

made in an NCAA Tournament (20 of 40), is Alabama's career and single game record-holder in making three-pointers and is the SEC Tournament and single game record-holder in three-pointers made.

She played four seasons of professional basketball in Spain, Ireland, Sweden, Greece and Switzerland. She also participated in training camp activities for the Detroit Shock of the WNBA.

She has a bachelor's degree in sports/fitness management from the University of Alabama and completed a master of arts in teaching from the University of West Alabama.



Richardson
Reggie Richardson is serving as an assistant to Jake Yarbrough, head baseball coach. Richardson was head baseball coach at Southeast Lauderdale High School prior to

joining the ECCC staff. He is also a former baseball assistant at Jones County Junior College.

He played one season of professional baseball in the Texas-Louisiana League following successful careers at William Carey College, JCJC and Enterprise High School.

At William Carey, Richardson was an All-Gulf Coast Conference shortstop with a .345 batting average, 18 home runs and 97 RBIs. He received numerous honors at Jones, including All-Region, All-State and All-Star. In addition, he was selected team captain and was chosen best defensive player. He was an All-District selection for three years at Enterprise, where he was also chosen first team All-Area during his junior and senior campaigns. In addition, he was selected on the Mississippi High School All-Star Team. He also played football and received All-District honors as a defensive back.

Richardson has a bachelor's degree in physical education from William Carey College and is currently pursuing a master's degree in administration.

He is married to the former Blair Fee of Hattiesburg.

Warrior Sports Spotlight

By Angelo Kirk, Tom Tom Staff Member



Seltue Karweaye
SOCCER

How long have you been playing soccer?
Pretty much my whole life.

What drives you to play the game?

A win for sure! I'm a winner. I play to win.

Where did you first begin playing?
Liberia, West Africa

Who is your favorite player?

A.C. Minan of Italy and George Weah, 1995 World's Best.

Since your career started, what has been the most special game?

Taking my high school team in West Africa to the championship and winning.

Who is your most memorable coach?

I have two. Coach Kamira McGill of Liberia, West Africa and East Central's Kenneth Thompson. He is one of the best coaches I have ever worked with.

How far do you plan on taking soccer?

I love soccer and if the opportunity presents itself I'll go to a pro league. But my education is the most important thing right now.

Where do you plan to continue your education and soccer career after ECCC?

My top three choices are Southern Birmingham, University of Minnesota and the University of West Alabama.



Arrion Triplett
FOOTBALL

How long have you been playing football?
Since the seventh grade.

What drives you to play the game?

Winning is the bottom line, but extra incentives are always nice.

Who is your favorite player?

Warren Sapp of the Tampa Bay Bucs because he is a hard nosed competitor who is all about getting his job done like myself.

Where did you first begin playing?

Whitley Acres on the east side of Louisville.

Since your career started, what has been the most special game?

Last season against Hinds I had seven tackles, one sack, two forced fumbles and one fumble recovery!

Who is the most memorable coach?

Coach Terry Underwood because he has pushed me to work hard and to never stop. To give 100 percent.

How far do you plan to take football?

Hopefully all the way to the pros.

Where do you plan to continue your education and football career?

My top three are Memphis, Middle Tennessee and Louisiana Tech.

2002 ECCC Soccer Schedule

September

Saturday, 7	Open	
Wednesday, 11	Hinds	Away 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, 14	Itawamba	Home 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 17	Jones	Home 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, 21	Pearl River	Away 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 25	Meridian	Away 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, 28	Co-Lin	Home 11:00 a.m.

October

Teusday, 1	Gulf Coast	Away 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, 5	East MS	Home 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, 9	MS Delta	Away 4 :00 p.m.
Saturday, 12	Rush Inv.	Meridian 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, 15	Jones	Away 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, 19	Pearl River	Home 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, 23	Meridian	Home 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, 26	Co-Lin	Away 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, 29	Gulf Coast	Home 4:30 p.m.

November

Saturday, 2	State Semifinals
Sunday, 3	State Finals

STAFF (continued from page 1)

sophomore at the College.



Clark

Clark was previously employed at La-Z-Boy South in Newton, where he most recently served as purchasing agent.

He also held the positions of assistant human resource manager, production scheduler and worked in the leather department/production during his 12-year tenure with the company.

He also has experience in sales and finance. A graduate of Decatur High School, Clark holds an associate of arts degree in business administration from East Central Community College and a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Clark is married to the former Sandy Hemingway of Marion, Miss. They have two children, Luke and Olivia.



Russell

Russell is a former production manager at La-Z-Boy South in Newton. He also previously served as a market-

neer for Entergy Corporation in Greenville. A graduate of East Central Junior College, he holds bachelor's degrees in industrial engineering and business administration from Mississippi State University.

Russell and his wife, Colette, have two children, Slade Thompson and Brandon Thompson.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff,

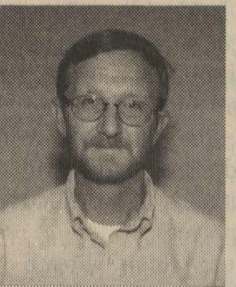
Hitt served as guidance counselor at the East Central Alternative School in Decatur. He is also a former social studies teacher at Union High School. He is also a member of the ECCC adjunct faculty and previously served the College as a summer recruiter.



Hitt

A graduate of Union High School, Hitt received an associate in arts degree from ECCC, a bachelor of public administration degree from the University of Mississippi, and a master of science degree in counselor education from Mississippi State University.

He is married to the former Linda Henley of Hickory and they have a daughter, Gillian.



Warren

Warren, who has over 30 years experience in industrial maintenance and supervision, is responsible for developing, scheduling and delivering Basic Maintenance and Advanced Technology Training classes at the new lab, which is designed to deliver customized technical training in automated manufacturing environments.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Warren served as a maintenance supervisor at Brook Manufacturing Company in Union. He is also a former lead shift mechanic at Witco-Richardson Battery Parts in Philadelphia.

A Navy veteran, Warren attended East Central Community College and is a graduate of

Neshoba Central High School.

He is married to the former Janice Sharp of Sebastopol and has a daughter, Candice (Warren) Beason of Philadelphia; sons Jon Christopher Warren of Pensacola and Randall Watkins of Sebastopol; step-daughters Cindy (Boykin) Gilmore of Sebastopol and Kym Boykin of Louin; and grandchildren, Brian, Justin and Kristin Gilmore of Sebastopol, Cole and Micaela Beason of Philadelphia, Kyler Boykin of Louin, and Hailey Warren of Pensacola.



Brooks

Brooks formerly served as academic and vocational counselor/assistant administrator at the Walnut Grove Youth Correctional Facility. She is also a former academic counselor at Leake Academy and previously served as an employment counselor at the Mississippi Employment Security Commission in Philadelphia. In all, she has 14 years experience as a counselor.

A graduate of Leake Academy, Brooks attended East Central Community College, the University of Mississippi, where she received a bachelor's degree in communications/radio-television, and Mississippi State University, where she received a master's degree in counselor education.

She and her husband, Mike, have two sons. Michael is a senior at MSU and Jon, a freshman at ECCC.

They are members are Freeny United Methodist Church.

Slaughter previously served as a customer service representative at National Bank of Commerce in Philadelphia.

She is a graduate of Neshoba



Slaughter

She is married to Johnny Slaughter, boys' basketball coach at Newton County High School. They have three children, Chris, Chase and Jayohnnie.

They are members of Rose Hill Baptist Church where Mrs. Slaughter serves as church secretary and bookkeeper.



Mott

Mott is also a member of the ECCC adjunct faculty with her husband, John, who serves as Director of 911 for Lauderdale County.

She is a former marketing/business and office technology instructor at Meridian Community College. She is also former business/computer teacher at Newton County Academy. Mott was previously employed at ECCC as assistant to the Director of Development and Alumni Relations.

She is a graduate of Northeast Lauderdale High School in Meridian, Meridian Community College, where she received an associate in arts degree in advertising/marketing, and Mississippi State University, where she received a bachelor's degree in business and industry with emphasis in marketing.

She and her husband have two sons, Jacob and Joshua.

ECCC Beauty Pageant
Monday, November 5, 2002
Huff Auditorium
7:30 p.m.



Wall O' Sound danceline

Providing entertainment during halftime activities of Warrior football games are the Centralettes, the dance line for the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching band. Members and their respective high schools are (front row, from left) Mary Lois Thomas, Newton County; Haley Waggoner, Morton; Liz Kirk, Nanih Waiya; and Rachael Carter and Brittany Young, both of Winston Academy; (second row, from left) Blair Anderson and Kristin Hedrick, both of Newton County; Andrea Walker, Edinburg; Dana Buckley, Union; Brooke Dorman, Edinburg; Heather Palmer, Union and Kery McDill, Newton County; and (back row, from left) Kristin Rice, Newton County Academy; Claudia Zynosky-Sharpling and Whitney Harris, both of Newton County; captain Sandy Keene, Union; Carrie Cumberland, Philadelphia; and Beth Pearson, Nanih Waiya.



2002-03 Ac'cents

Members of the East Central Community College show choir, the Ac'cents, include (front row, from left) Nathan Evans of Chunky, Steven Irby of Meridian and Lee Dooley of Lake; (second row, from left) Kristin Hedrick of Conehatta, Mary Lois Thomas of Decatur, Dinah Howell of Little Rock, Amy Chamblee and Lisa Chamblee, both of Carthage; and Emily Mayes of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Johnny Jones of Newton, Luke Howell of Little Rock, Damein Wash of Hickory and technicians Chris Moody and Adam McAdorey, both of Louisville. Vickie Blaylock serves as director.

Baptist Student Union staying busy

By Joshua Hall
Tom Tom Reporter

As a new school year begins the Baptist Student Union has high expectations about such things as attendance, summer missions, conferences, and worship services.

BSU Director, Scott Vaughn said, "I expect an average attendance of about 180 students at worship services. We also anticipate ministering to about 600 to 700 students around campus."

According to Vaughn, the BSU Ministry Team plans to visit about 30 churches during the school year. They also plan to send five people on summer mission trips.

Throughout the course of the year they will be raising funds to support summer missions. The goal is \$7,777.77. Vaughn said

the students chose that number because in the bible seven denotes perfection or completion.



Students enjoy a little "back to school fun" during the Baptist Student Union's "Dirty Water Games."

Last years summer missionaries and their respective areas of service included Casie Page, Alaska; Erica Tullos, California; Jacob Pierce, New Jersey; Jeff Pates, Canada; Jessie Warren, Taiwan; Kristen Gardner, Arizona; and Tori Tijerina, the Philippines.

Future plans include the fall

and spring statewide conventions, the fall and spring disciple now retreats, Operation Christmas Child and a spring break mission trip.

Vaughn said, "The BSU is very proud of the completion of the new facility. It creates a more spacious and comfortable environment." He added, "God is real and we're not just going to play church."

There will also be three bible study groups. Group leaders

are Kristen Gardner, Rachel Stephens and Nathan Stamper.

BSU worship services are on Mondays at 8:31 p.m. and Lunch Encounters, which include a short program and free meal, are each Wednesday at noon. Vaughn invites everyone to come and worship!

2002 version of Wall O' Sound largest in college's history!

Special to
The Tom Tom

As EC's marching band, the "Wall O' Sound", registered in the lobby of the fine arts building August 8 for the first day of band camp. Director of Bands Thomas Carson knew the overflowing crowd was a great indication that this year was a "biggie".

Upon completing the band's "super weekend" band camp, Mr. Carson said, "Not only does our marching program have over 150 members, but the quality and enthusiasm of this bunch is the highest ever!"

Representing all five ECCC counties, and several out-of-district counties, the band members represent a wide range of majors. Contrary to common beliefs, most ECCC band members are not music majors; they are simply first class musicians who wish to continue their band experience with the "Wall O' Sound". As any band member will quickly point out, "Mr. Carson's scholarship offer was a 'deal I could not refuse!'"

Together with Carson, assistant director and percussion instructor Jared Brownlee will again have an awesome drum line.

Centralette Director and choreographer Lori Muse has been working with the Wall O' Sound's dance line and color guard instructor Ricardo Robinson has had those flags and sabers spinning like crazy in preparation for the first show!

When asked about this year's half-time show, Carson simply stated, "hot pants, go-go boots, a plethora of colors and wild 60's music pretty much sums it up."

The band's first performance will be September 5 on Warrior field during halftime of the college's opening football game.

2002 Wall O' Sound members include: Head Drum Major: Monica Allen* of Union and Assistant Drum Major: Diann Walters* of Philadelphia;

Flutes: Dinah Howell*, Jennifer Carson and Brad Sutphin, all of Newton County; Andy Polizzi, Meridian; Sarah Cole, Newton; Lora Jayroe and Ashley Leopard, both of Carthage; and Shariba Wash of Scott Central;

Clarinets: Heather Hanks*, Forest; Elizabeth Kinard, West

Lauderdale; Shellye Keyes and Krystal Burton and Amber Graham, all of Newton County; Kathy Rushing, Sebastopol; Co-Co Graham, Philadelphia; and Leslie Middlebrook, Meridian;

Alto Saxes: Damein Wash* and Josh Doyle, both of Newton County; Amanda Alford, Forest; Kiel May, Vicksburg; Megan Logan and Amberly Boggan, both of Newton; Josh Murphy, Southeast Lauderdale; Kasey Kennedy, Scott Central; Joseph Bozeman, Neshoba Central; and

ander Moore, Neshoba Central; and Alex Harrell, Louisville;

Baritones: Latrice Spivey*, Forest; Ryan Loper and Tasha Hall, Newton County; Anita Griffin, Carthage; and Amanda Holloway, Sebastopol;

Tubas: William Cherry* and Lucas Pope, both of Neshoba Central; Claudia Patrick, Sebastopol; Charles Wood, Louisville; Lee Faucette, Leake Academy; Franklin Lewis, Newton; and Jacob King, Newton County.

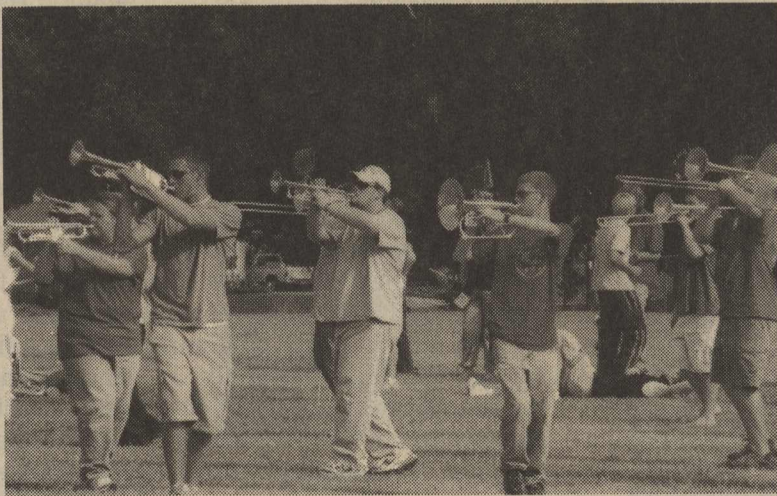
Percussion: Greg Duncan*, Jana Nowell and Brook Winstead, all of Neshoba Central; David Bayles and Matt Carroll, both of West Lauderdale; Shelby Anderson, Raleigh; Steve Harrison and Amon Shields, both of Meridian; Jason Price, Sebastopol; Johnny L. Jones II and Elsa Elena Roberts, both

of Newton; Lamar Johnson, Southeast Lauderdale; Jeff Pates, Ocean Springs; Katie Palmer, Pearl; Kyle McDill, Louisville; Alan Williams, Lester Miles and Emily Mayes, all of Newton County; Sheena Lampley and Lashandria Luckett, both of Carthage; Lee Dooley, Lake; and Gary Hathorne, Bassfield;

Colorguard: Alysa Ford*, Kristen Gardner*, Dana Massey, Kellie McGee, Yolanda Johnson, Keisha Mapp and Natasha Foster, all of Newton County; Amanda Sanders, South Leake; Heather Neese, West Lauderdale; Stephanie Winstead and Jessica Fedrick, both of Morton; Dayna Dickinson, Amanda Clark, Danielle Carter and Jessica Porter, all of Neshoba Central; Ashley Brown and Ashley Thomas, both of Philadelphia; Ashley Luckett and Adrienne Flowers, both of Carthage; Robin Page, Union; Nikki Anthony, Delisa Jenkins and Amanda Loyd, all of Louisville; Keisha Temple, Quintissa Moncrief and Falind Pace, all of Newton; and Felica Evans, Scott Central; and

Managers: Juston Dean, John King and Kevin Comans, all of Newton County; Gabe Bailey, Louisville; Corli Burns, Carthage; Jereme Hoover, Jackson and Austin Lloyd, Morton.

(*Members of Band Council))



Sweltering heat is no problem for these Warrior Wall O' Sound Band members who are shown rehearsing for the upcoming marching season.

Keith Hilliard, Louisville;

Tenor Saxes: Amanda Thompson, Louisville; and Todd Butler, Sebastopol;

Bari Sax: Adam Huffman, Neshoba Central;

Bass Clarinet: Kimberly Hays, Carthage;

Trumpets: April McAdory* and Grant Morris, both of Neshoba Central; Heather Cheesman, Hillcrest; Adam Mann, Richard Phillips and Joey Gibbons, all of Philadelphia; Thomas Comfort, Amy Chamblee and Jada Billingsley, all of Carthage; Billy McBeath, Leake Academy; Adrienne Moore, Lake; Billy Johnson, Newton; Andrea Johnson, Sebastopol; Jennifer Adcock, Forest; Luke Howell, Allen Davis and Jonothan Walker, Newton County; Steven Irby, Southeast Lauderdale; and Cary Tisdale, Florence;

Mellophones: Chris Carson*, Newton County; Adam McAdory, Louisville; Maranda Burkes, Neshoba Central; Bryon Whitley, Philadelphia; Miranda Cooper, Scott Central; and Glenn Thomas, Newton;

Trombones: David Walters*, Philadelphia; Jeremy Hamm and Lucas Quinn, both of Union; Krystal Moore and Michael Graham, both of Lake; Melissa Tubby, Choctaw Central; Terrence Smith, Carthage; Austin Griffin, Newton County; Alex

Rock and Roll lives on at ECCC

Special to
The Tom Tom

The future of rock and roll is in good hands for 2002-2003 as this year's edition of The Collegians kicks in!

Following two days of intense tryouts, involving 48 students, a diverse group of musicians from our five county area were selected to "rock on" audiences for this school year.

When asked about performance and tour plans, director and guitarist Tom Carson said, "Our first priority is to rehearse for the traditional Monday-of-Thanksgiving-week campus

concert. After that, we will be touring high schools and other venues, performing at senior days, and traveling to Florida for our summer tour in May.

"The amps will fall silent following our farewell concerts at the Neshoba County Fair in July, and the 2002-2003 Collegians will be history."

Members of this year's group and their respective high schools include vocalists Chris Carson, Jennifer Carson and Damein Wash, all of Newton County; April Ellis and Kristen Thornton, both of Edinburg; and Natalie Tanksley, Sebastopol.

Rhythm section members include Chris Moody of Nanih

Waiya, guitar; Grant Morris of Philadelphia, bass guitar; Johnny L. Jones II of Newton, drums; and Emily Mayes of Newton County, keyboards.

Members of the wind section include Richard Phillips, first trumpet, and David Walters, trombone, both of Philadelphia; April McAdory of Neshoba Central, second trumpet; and Amanda Thompson of Louisville, saxophone.

Technicians are Andy Polizzi of Meridian, Lucas Pope and Joseph Bozeman, both of Neshoba Central; Byron Whitley of Philadelphia, Ryan Loper of Newton County and Lucas Quinn of Union.

Scholars Bowl changes routine

By Vicki Powe
Tom Tom Reporter

The 2002-2003 Scholars Bowl is changing its routine after years of following the same formula.

The Scholars Bowl is a team sport in which schools compete against each other by answering questions in categories such as math, science, and history. Traditionally, only one team of four contestants is allowed to compete.

Sponsor, Dr. Linda Lane, after observing opposing teams last

year, has decided to take two teams instead of just one.

Dr. Lane said, "Having more than one team will increase the chances of doing better in competition. Having more students participate will allow me the opportunity to choose from the best for the first team. The second team will be chosen from the remaining students."

"The teams will be chosen, in part, by the number of points they amass in practice. Those not chosen for either team will be alternates."

Sophomore Andrew Henry,

who was on the team last year, said, "I believe that allowing more students to participate will benefit the team, especially in practice, when students will actually get to compete against each other in mock competitions."

Several first-time participants say that Scholars Bowl will be a challenging experience that will enable them to meet new people and learn many new things.

2002-2003 Rodeo Schedule

September 26-28	Missouri Valley College	Marshall, MO
October 3-5	Southern Arkansas College	Magnolia, AR
October 17-19	University of West Alabama	Livingston, AL
October 31-November 2	East Central Community College	Philadelphia, MS
November 21-23	Murray State	Murray, KY
February 20-22	Mississippi State University	Starkville, MS
March 6-8	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Tifton, GA
March 27-29	Arkansas State University	Jonesboro, AR
April 3-5	Southwest Missouri State University	Springfield, MO
April 10-12	University of Tennessee at Martin	Martin, TN

East Central sophomore, Crystal Kimble, killed in wreck



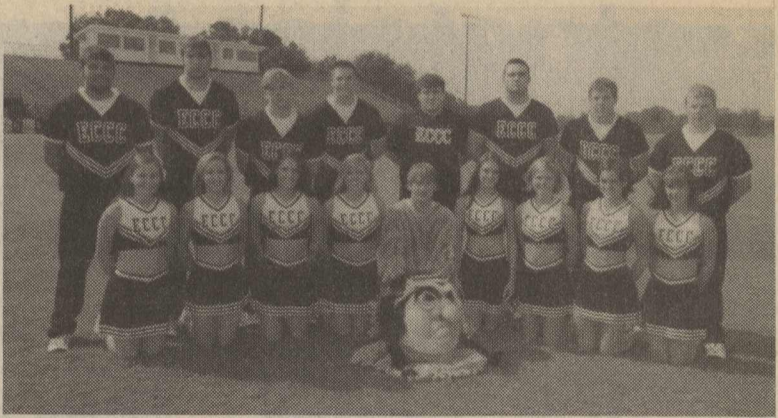
Crystal W. Kimble

Crystal Wadford Kimble of Carthage, a 20-year-old sophomore at East Central Community College, was killed August 12, in a two-car accident on Highway 25 in Leake County. Her husband, James Kimble, was injured in

the accident. Crystal Kimble was a Computer Technology student and was majoring in programming. In addition, she was a part-time employee at Alfa Insurance Agency in Carthage. Stella Dickerson, one of Kimble's instructors said, "Crystal worked part-time, was married, maintained a home, cared for disabled father and was a full-time student. The remarkable thing is that she was only 20 years old. She came to class, did her work and went home.

She didn't have time for any extracurricular activities and she never hug around after class. She didn't have the time for that sort of thing even if she wanted to. She was friendly, courteous and reliable, but very busy. She was a very efficient, practical sort of person, but every once in a while she would show a keen sense of humor. She will be greatly missed." Services for Kimble were held at 3 p.m Saturday, August 17 in Pleasant Grove Congregational Methodist Church. The Rev.

Bobby Roberson officiated. Burial was in Reformation Cemetery. Wilcox Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Survivors include her husband, James Kimble; her father, Eddie T. Wadford; her mother, Peggy Shows; a brother, Anthony Wadford; and her grandmother, Serlena Perkins. Pallbearers were Matthew Schmidt, Bo Chamblee, Brandon Federick, Brad Roberson, Will Burton and Chad Putt.



2002-2003 ECCC Cheerleaders

Members of the East Central Community College cheerleading squad for the 2002-2003 college term and their respective high schools include (kneeling from left) Renee Thompson of East Rankin Academy, Shelly Johnson of Newton, Audra Myers of Louisville, Jennifer Walker of Neshoba Central, mascot Chuck Quinn of Nani Waiya, Nikki Tullos and Lindsey Cheatham, both of Philadelphia; Ashley Buckman of Bay Springs and Jennifer Kersh of Enterprise and (standing, from left) Brody Perkins of Carthage, Chris Huff of Forest, Richard Fulton of Nanih Waiya, Charles Hall of Bay Springs, Scott Belvin of West Lauderdale, Nathan Stamper of Newton County Academy, Eric Graham of Union, and Zach Thames of Newton.

EMT-Paramedic Technology now offered at East Central

Students planning a career as an EMT/Paramedic can receive the coursework they need by enrolling in the technology program now available at East Central Community College in Decatur. Emergency Medical Technology – Paramedic (EMTP) is a two-year program being offered for the first time in the 2002 fall term. The new course of study is a welcomed addition to the College's list of vocational-technical programs, according to John Adcock, dean of vocational-technical instruction.

"We believe that EMT/Paramedic Technology will be a very important program for our district, based on a survey of employers in the east Mississippi area. According to the survey, 28 additional paramedics are currently needed and an additional 157 paramedics will be needed over the next five years. Therefore, by offering this program we are providing not only a rewarding career for individuals but also a needed service for our local communities," Adcock said.

To qualify for admission to the program, Adcock said students are required to be as state certified EMT-Basic and complete Anatomy and Physiology I and II with a grade of "C" or better. Patrick Black of Meridian was recently selected to serve as the program's first director/instructor. He is a former paramedic/training officer for Metro Ambulance Service in Meridian. He holds a bachelor's degree in biological sciences from Mississippi State University and completed

EMT courses at Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa, Ala., and at East Mississippi Community College in Scooba. He is a native of Long Beach. For more information contact Sylvia Bush, vocational-technical counselor at the Bradford J. Tucker Applied Technology Center, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 214. Her email address is sbush@eccc.cc.ms.us.

Activities, parking and open dorms

By Ardria Harris and Shaletha Wade
Tom Tom Reporters

In a recent survey, students at East Central Community College gave many reasons for why they chose East Central as the place to continue their education. Friends, scholarships, academic reputation and athletic teams were just a few of the perks that brought them to campus. Although most of them are glad they made the decision, there are a few things they say could make their stay a bit more enjoyable. Many of the freshmen said more activities and more parking would make things better while the sophomores seemed to agree that more freedom and open dorm policies would help. In response to their comments, Vice President for Student Ser-

vices Joe Killens made the following remarks. "The SBA has been working extremely hard trying to sponsor activities for the students at East Central," Killens said. "We changed the Welcome Back Week to include some "Fall Relays" and we have a Volleyball Tournament scheduled in a couple of weeks. We also tried to conduct a talent show, but not enough interest was shown. In addition, we will have dances for Homecoming and other special times of the year," He added, "Phi Theta Kappa has already sponsored one Movie Night and has more planned for the semester." Killens also stated that he and SBA members are always open to any suggestions on events that students would participate in and enjoy. Parking is a problem that Kil-

lens said occurs on every campus in the country. "Students who arrive to class a little early should not have much trouble finding a space," Killens said. "Of course, they will not always find one in front of their classroom building. Another way we are trying to combat the parking shortage is by encouraging residence hall students not to drive from their residence hall to their class." In response to open dorms, Killens said, "At this time we do not believe that an open dorm policy is best for our students. This creates a risk for all students and we believe parents send their children to East Central because they can obtain a great education at a good cost and they feel that we have a safe campus." So don't fret students! Activities are being planned as we speak. And don't complain, because

your suggestions are welcome if you will take the time to talk to the people in student services or those SBA officers you elected! If parking is truly a problem for you, then set your alarm clock to go off a little bit earlier or pay your room deposit for a spot in the dorm next semester. This way, you can walk anywhere on campus you need to go! As far as open dorm policies go, students have been debating this issue as long as anyone can remember! Maybe it will change one day. Maybe it won't. But as you sit in your dorm room pondering over the situation, just think. You might want your boyfriend or girlfriend to have free access, but would you want your roommate's friends coming in any time of the day or night? (The Public Information Office contributed to this report.)

ECCC tutorial labs provide much needed help

By April Jones
Tom Tom Reporter

Don't know what X+Y equals? Having trouble figuring out how to diagram sentences? At East Central Community College, free tutorial labs are offered to help you work out those problems. The Learning Skills Center, the Mathematics Lab and the Career Center are just a few of the ways students can get ahead in class and not have to struggle when final exams come around. The Learning Skills Center is located in room 112 of Newton Hall. It is open from 8 a.m to 8 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday

and Thursday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday. Using PLATO computer software, the Center provides tutorials in reading, writing and math from beginner to college level. The Center also offers practice tests for the PRAXIS, GED and ACT exams. Center director Mary Hanson said, "If you have a few minutes and need help, please stop by." She also added that the Center always welcomes volunteers who are willing to help with the tutorials. The Tech Prep Career Center is located in the upstairs in the Eddie M. Smith Student Union Building. It is open from 8 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday. The Career Center has computers, magazines, career books and assessment tests to help students research career options. Director Christi Lewis said, The Career Center is available for students currently enrolled and for people in the community to come by and research different career options and opportunities." The newest addition to East Central's tutorial labs is the Mathematic Lab. Located in Ethridge Hall, Room 2, the Mathematics Lab was

organized by the College's mathematics faculty to help students who might not feel comfortable going by their instructor's office. The Math Lab is open from Noon to 3 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and from 1 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. ECCC mathematics instructor Gail Fulton said, "We believe that students would feel more comfortable if they were not in our offices. We hope this will allow us to reach more students who might be struggling with classes." So whether it's math or English or any other subject, East Central offers the help you need to make that A!

The Tom Tom staff

Staff members of the East Central Community College student newspaper, The Tom Tom, include (seated from left) Ardria Harris of South Leake and editor Jimmy Hall of Leake Academy; and (standing from left) Amy Haralson of Scott Central, Shaletha Wade of Nanih Waiya, Joahua Hall of Morton, Vickie Powe of Leake Academy and April Jones of Scott Central. Not pictured are assistant editor Drev Kenna of Forest, Angelo Kirk of Louisville, Jenna Talbert of Newton and Shuwaski Young of Noxapater.

Theta Xi to host regional leadership conference

By April Jones
Tom Tom Reporter

The 2002-2003 college term has arrived for East Central Community College and Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa is already on a roll. Members of the international honor society have been meeting since the beginning of summer preparing for the Phi Theta Kappa

Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Leadership Conference, which will be hosted by the College September 6-7. Christy Ferguson, sponsor of Theta Xi Chapter, said, "The leadership conference is a time for students from different colleges to learn more about this year's honors study topic 'Dimensions and Directions of Health: Choices in the Maze!'



Theta Xi prepares for regional conference

Members of Theta Xi chapter of Phi Theta Kappa met recently to discuss final plans for the MS/LA Regional Conference which will be hosted by ECCC on the Decatur campus. Pictured are (seated from left) April McAdorey of Neshoba Central, April Jones of Scott Central, Amy Rawson and Natasha Phillips, both of Carthage; Victoria Daniels of Neshoba Central and Christen Herrington of Leake Academy; and (standing from left) Jake Alexander of Newton County Academy, Jimmy Hall of Leake Academy, Lance Hall of Forest, Charles Wood of Louisville and sponsors Brent Gregory and Christy Ferguson.



ECCC's ADN Class of 2002

Ready to begin careers in nursing are the above graduates of East Central Community College's Associate Degree Nursing program who were recognized during a commencement program held on the Decatur campus. Members of the Class of 2002 include first row, from left, Jennifer Pace, Decatur; Stacy Neese, Louin; Tanya Oliver, Little Rock; Wendy Barnett, Noxapater; Becky Anderson, Hickory; and Kimberly Culpepper, Chunky. Second row, from left, are Angela Hayman, Morton; Janice Sadler, Hickory; Sonji Rose, Decatur; Jean Wood, Morton; and Khristan Able, Philadelphia. Third row, from left, are Amanda Winters, Morton; Erica Riser, Forest; Amy Burgin, Union; and Dana Reynolds, Noxapater. Fourth row, from left, are Jackie Woodard, Collinsville; Shanda Shepard, Forest; Anne Richardson, Union; and Sherron Adams, Carthage. Fifth row, from left, are Heather Perry, Jackson; Ashlea Gullele, Lake; Nickie Dean, Newton; and Jo An Shelley, Forest. Sixth row, from left, are Melissa Tindol, Philadelphia; Amy Lott, Forest; Byron Tullos, Philadelphia; and Thomas Burns, Lena. Not pictured is Sherry Clark of Meridian.



ECCC'S LPN Graduates

East Central Community College Licensed Practical Nursing graduates included (first row, from left) Alisha Danyel Thompson, Carthage; Kathy Rock Harrison and Jennifer Belk Eanes, both of Pulaski; and Eileen Stephanie Soto, Forest; (second row, from left) Mary Sue Hood Sullivan and Deborah Ruddick Blais, both of Union, and Tanay Catrenia Primer, Carthage; (third row, from left) Kathleen Sue Hogue, Walnut Grove; Jamie Blackburn, Decatur; Karen Terrell Adams, Union; Angela Beasley, Louisville; Amy Lum Clark, Carthage; and Sonya Gale Freeny, Carthage; (fourth row, from left) Trilanda Lakeesha Ware, Forest; Stephanie Fryery Mize, Philadelphia; Teresa McCurdy Cager, Forest; Debra Louise Munn, Union; and Stephanie Sones Mills, Carthage. Not pictured is Rhonda Bell Thomas of Carthage.



ECCC Surgical Tech Graduates

East Central Community College in Decatur recently held a pinning ceremony for graduates of the college's Surgical Technology program. Members of the Class of 2002 include (front row, from left) Mavis Griffin of Conehatta, Kim McAdory of Louisville, Connie Chapman of Newton, Nina Roach of Philadelphia, Angela Betts of Meridian and Amanda Denson of Morton; and (back row, from left) Jewett Perkins of Carthage, Dwayne Anderson and Angela Cooks, both of Forest; Paul Ford of Lena and Kyle Darsey of Hickory.



THE TOM TOM

Volume 56, Number 2

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

October 2002

Walker Named ECCC Homecoming Queen

East Central Community College in Decatur recently announced members of its 2002 Homecoming Court which will be presented Saturday, October 19, during halftime activities of the Warriors' football game against Hinds Community College. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

The 2002 Homecoming queen is Jennifer Walker of Philadelphia. Cassie Henson of Philadelphia will serve as Maid of Honor.

Sophomore maids include Lindsey Cheatham of Decatur, Megan Logan of Newton and Paige Posey of Philadelphia. Freshman maids are Nikki Anthony and Amy Reed, both of Louisville, Mandy Eakes of Philadelphia and Shelley Johnson of Hickory.



Walker

Walker is the daughter of Nancy Walker and Barry and Joy Walker, all of Philadelphia. She is a graduate of Neshoba

Queen, class favorite and most ambitious. She was also elected junior class president, named "most school spirit" and was selected to attend Girls' State.

All All-Star cheerleader, Walker was selected to cheer in the Down Under Bowl in Australia. In addition, she was a member of the Lady Rocket softball team for five years and participated on the cross country team. Walker was a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Talented and Gifted Class and various academic clubs.

At East Central, the sophomore pre-nursing major is a member of the cheerleading squad, Diamond Girls, Warrior Corps, Baptist Student Union, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau medical club and Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

Serving as the queen's escort is sophomore Nathan Stamper, a liberal arts major and graduate of Newton County Academy. He is the son of Richard and Shelia Stamper of Decatur.

Henson, daughter of Charles and Deborah Henson of Philadelphia, is an honor graduate of Philadelphia High School where she was captain of the softball team and a member of



Henson

the varsity basketball team. She was also selected senior class secretary and a junior homecoming maid. In addition, she

was a member of the Tornado band, the Beta Club, history club, concert choir and the pep club. She received various academic awards.

At East Central, the elementary education major, was selected a freshman Homecoming maid and freshman class favorite. Miss Henson is being escorted by Bryant Steel, a sophomore business administration major and a graduate of Philadelphia High School. His parents are Scottie and Sarah Coleman of Philadelphia.

Cheatham is the daughter of Steve and Brenda Cheatham of Decatur. She is a graduate of Philadelphia High School where she was selected an All-American cheerleader and named to *Who's Who Among American High School Students*.



Cheatham

In addition, she was a member of the Beta Club, Future Business Leaders of America, the history club, Health Occupation Students of America and the show choir and the mock trial team. She was also selected a junior class officer, a class beauty and Miss Neshoba County.

At East Central, the pre-nursing major is a member of the Warrior cheerleading squad, Warrior Corps and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She also serves as a goalie girl for the Warrior soccer team.

Serving as Miss Cheatham's escort is Will Florence, a sophomore liberal arts major and a graduate of North Delta Academy. He is the son of Tommy and Amy Florence of Batesville.

Logan, daughter of Robert and Michelle Logan of Newton, is a graduate of Newton High School where she was a member of the Tiger Band, First Priority, the Letterman's Club, the

Media Club and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

She also served as a manager for the basketball team and wrote sports for the local newspaper.



Logan

O'Sound Marching Band, Baptist Student Union and Wesley Foundation. She also serves as a student assistant for the Lady Warrior basketball team and is

treasurer of the Student Body Association.

Escorting Miss Logan is Alex Shepard, a sophomore liberal arts major and graduate of Sebastopol High School. His parents are Gerald and Kathy Shepard of Sebastopol.



Posey

Posey is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Rudy Posey, Jr. of Philadelphia. She is a graduate of Leake Academy, where she

See COURT, page 4

ECCC Homecoming Celebration Scheduled Saturday, October 19

East Central Community College will recognize recipients of various Alumni Association awards during Homecoming activities scheduled Saturday, October 19 on the Decatur campus. The theme for this year's celebration is, "Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow - Homecoming 2002."

Also planned are reunions for various groups, including former baseball players coached by the late Jamie Clark; members of the 1957, 1958 and 1959 classes; former members of the Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band and Centralettes; the Associate Degree Nursing Alumni Association; and members of all classes ending in "2."

Two athletic events are also scheduled on Homecoming. The Soccer Warriors will host Pearl River Community College at 10 a.m., and the Warrior football team will entertain Hinds Com-

munity College in a 2:30 p.m. kickoff.

Coach Clark, who lost his battle with cancer in July 2001, led the Diamond Warriors from 1988-2001. His overall record was 365-302-1 and included a state championship in 1998.

The baseball stadium was named in his honor last spring, and since that time various renovations have been made to upgrade the facility. An update of stadium improvements will be presented at the reunion.

Homecoming Week activities get underway at 6 p.m. Thursday, October 17, with a reception to showcase artwork by ECCC alumnus Jay Murphy of Union. Murphy, who attended East Central from 1990-1992, will display his collection of portraits, paintings and computer-generated art in the lobby of the Vickers Fine Arts Center until 9 p.m.

This year's honorees include Imogene Johnson Borganelli of Greenville, Alumna of the Year; Albert Harvey Trapp of Newton, Alumnus of the Year; Freddie J. Bagley of Forest, James E. "Jim" Nabers of Louisville and Robert L. Thomas of Philadelphia, Athletic Hall of Fame; Linda Baucum Pierce of Decatur, Academic Instructor of the Year; and Robert Gerald Jordan of Carthage, Vocational-Technical Instructor of the Year.

Borganelli is a longtime civic and community leader in Greenville. In addition, she is a former teacher, having taught in Shaw, Jackson and



Borganelli

Greenville public schools. She also served Shaw High School as girls' basketball coach.

She has continued her service to education as a member of various advisory boards and organizations, including the National Educational Foundation Program Committee of the American Association of University Women, the Advisory Board to Promote Equity in Education at Mississippi Delta Community College, the Mississippi Association for Women in Higher Education, the Mississippi Career Education Advisory Committee, and the American Association of University Women, an organization she served in numerous capacities including president and vice president of the state and local chapters.

She also served on the Human Relations Council during the transition years of moving into a desegregated school system in Greenville, and is a former president of the Parent/Teacher Association. In addition, she has served on the City of Greenville Education Initiative Board and provides support for Public Radio of Mississippi (PRM) and Mississippi Educational Television (ETV).

She also served as an advisory member for the Sarah Isom Center for Women at the University of Mississippi.

Her civic experience is extensive and includes membership on the Greenville Biracial Committee, an organization she also chaired; the Teen Club Board; the Greenville Community Citizens Advisory Development Committee; the Alice Bell Garden Club; the Garden Club of Mississippi; the Belvidere Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; and the Private Taylor Rucks Chapter #2204 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

See CELEBRATION, page 2

Thrash loses battle with lung cancer

Services for longtime East Central Community College instructor Thomas W. Thrash, 64, were held Monday, September 9, in Decatur United Methodist Church.

The Rev. Henry G. Winstead and the Rev. Billy Owen officiated. Ovid S. Vickers provided the eulogy. Burial was in Newton County Memorial Gardens. Barham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements. Thrash died Friday, September 6, in the Specialty Hospital in Meridian.

Thrash was a graduate of Newton High School, East Central Junior College and earned the bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University. He completed additional studies at MSU and the University of Southern Mississippi.

Thrash served as ECCC social sciences instructor since 1962. He was also Chairman of the Social Science, Education and Business Division.

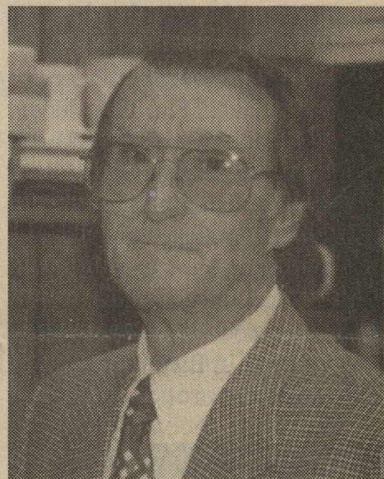
Thrash received numerous awards throughout his teaching career. He was selected Academic Instructor of the Year in 1987 and received an award for teaching excellence at the annual NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development) Conference in 1989 at the University of Texas in Austin.

In 1992, he was selected to participate in the annual Lamp-lighter Program, which recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors. He was selected to participate in the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program at Mississippi State University.

The longtime ECCC faculty member was also recognized as the College's Humanities Teacher of the Year in 1999, a program sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council in celebration of Arts and Humanities Month.

Thrash lectured on "The Impact of Reverend N. C. Clarke on Newton County, Mississippi," during the special program held before a packed audience in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. The Rev. Clarke, an ancestor of Mr. Thrash, was the founder and first pastor of Clarke Venable Baptist Church. Clarke Memorial College was also named in his honor.

Thrash most recently served as campus coordinator for the Smithsonian exhibit, *Produce for Victory: Posters on the*



Tommy Thrash

American Home Front, 1941-45, a collection of wartime posters provided by the Institution's Traveling Exhibition Services (SITES). East Central served as the first host site for the exhibit, which was on display at the College last fall.

Thrash was a member of Decatur United Methodist Church, the National Council of Instructional Administrators, the Mississippi Faculty Association for Community and Junior Colleges, East Central Community College Alumni Association, and Gamma Nu Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta at Mississippi State University.

He served in the Mississippi Army National Guard and also served on the Board of Directors of Decatur Country Club for over 30 years.

Thrash was awarded lifetime membership in the Mississippi Jaycees and the Jaycee International Senate. He was presented numerous Distinguished Service Awards during his tenure as Area Vice President of the Mississippi Jaycees.

He was preceded in death by his father, John T. Thrash.

Survivors include his wife, Jeanette B. Thrash; his mother, Evelyn Gallaspy Thrash of Newton; two daughters, Mev T. Knight of Meridian and her husband, Robbie, and Melissa T. Carleton of Newton and her husband, Robert; a brother, Ronnie G. Thrash of Newton; and two grandchildren, Kelsi Knight and Logan Knight of Meridian.

Pallbearers were General Denver Brackeen, Joe Clark, Bruce Guraedy, Kenneth Jones, Dr. Phil Sutphin, Dr. Brad Tucker, Gus Vallas and Ovid S. Vickers.

Honorary pallbearers were Clayton Blount and N.F. Smith.

Memorials may be made to the Thomas W. Thrash Scholarship Fund at East Central Community College.



ECCC Sets Record Enrollment!

For the first time in school history, enrollment at East Central Community College has exceeded the 2500 mark! Area students are shown with a sign indicating the new record, which officially stands at 2503. East Central, recognized as one of the state's fastest growing community colleges, has experienced an increase in enrollment for 18 consecutive years. College President Dr. Phil A. Sutphin said East Central "is most appreciative of the support it receives from Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties and the surrounding areas in achieving the record enrollment."

CELEBRATION (Continued from page 1)

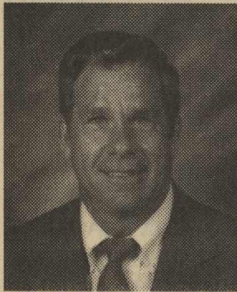
of the Confederacy.

In addition, she served six years on the Mississippi Humanities Council and continues to serve as an advisory member.

A graduate of Decatur High School, Borganelli is a member of the ECJC Class of 1947. At East Central, she served as co-captain of the Warriorette basketball team and was a member of the Glee Club. She also participated in several drama productions. She mentioned the late Frank Leatherwood, who taught biology at the College, and her father, the late Nick Johnson, among those who influenced her career. Johnson was a former math teacher and school superintendent. He also served as President of the Scott County Board of Education. Mrs. Borganelli noted that her father "spent most of his life working to improve education." Johnson was also a businessman, having owned the Decatur Hardware Store.

She received a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Mississippi, and has completed additional coursework in education from Ole Miss on the graduate level.

She is married to Santo Borganelli and they have five grown children. Dr. Mark Borganelli, a cardiologist with specialties of cardiovascular diseases and electro physiology, resides in Pensacola, Fla., with his wife, Wanda, and their two children, Ali and Chase. Dr. Greg Borganelli is a dentist specializing in children's dentistry and resides in Lake City, Fla., with his wife, Suzanne. Sanci is a retired executive and assists her husband, Tom Ledwidge who has a State Farm Insurance Agency in Miami Lakes, Fla. They have two children, Tommy and Max. Bart Borganelli is a vice president in the cash management division at Bancorp South in Hattiesburg. He has a daughter, Alexis. Neal Borganelli is an account executive with the Cytex Corporation in Birmingham, Ala., and Boxborough, Mass.



Trapp

Trapp is former business manager at East Central Community College, where he also taught accounting and business law courses. He actually served two stints as business manager, from September 1981 to November 1992, and again from 1997 to 1999, when he retired from fulltime service at the College.

Trapp began his employment at East Central in 1972 as an accounting instructor. He continued teaching while serving as business manager and served as a member of the College's adjunct faculty through the 2001-2002 term, when he "officially" retired from a career in education that spanned approximately 30 years.

In addition to his duties at the College, Trapp maintained a private accounting practice in Decatur for many years.

Trapp received several honors for his service as the College's business manager. The Mississippi Community and Junior College Business Managers' Association recognized the longtime educator with an Outstanding Service Award in 1992, and the College's Board of Trustees commended Trapp in a resolu-

tion presented upon his retirement.

Prior to joining the ECCC staff, Trapp worked in the automotive business. He also served four years in the Air Force and received "Airman of the Month" honors for six consecutive months while stationed at Columbus Air Force Base in the early 1960s.

He is a lifetime member of the ECCC Alumni Association and served on the Decatur Country Club Board of Directors.

A graduate of Philadelphia High School, Trapp is a member of the ECJC Class of 1957. At East Central, he held leadership roles in various campus organizations. He was inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges.

He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master of professional accountancy degree, both from Mississippi State University where he was tapped for membership in Beta Alpha Psi (Scholastic Accounting Fraternity), Beta Gamma Sigma (Scholastic Business Fraternity) and Phi Kappa Phi (Scholastic Fraternity).

Trapp is married to the former Brenda Kay Ivey of Lake. He has a daughter, Mrs. Jimmy (Tonya) Nowell, a teacher in the Newton County School System. She and her husband reside in Decatur and have a daughter, Maggie Elizabeth Nowell. Trapp has two stepdaughters, Mrs. Jake (Stacy) Addy of Newton and Mrs. Michael Wayne (Tracy) Dearing of Newton. Stacy is employed at Northeast Lauderdale High School. She and Jake have two sons, Jacob and Joshua. Tracy is employed at Meridian Community College. She and Michael Wayne have two children, Shelby and Benjamin.



Bagley

Bagley was an All-State quarterback at East Central, where he led the Warriors to successive 7-3 records during the 1970 and 1971 seasons. Team honors he received included his selection as most valuable player and the Andrew F. Webb Award. He was also a two-year letterman in baseball. Other honors he received at East Central included the freshman mathematics award and class favorite.

Bagley was a former standout at Forest High School, where he led the 1969 Bearcats to a 10-0-1 mark and the Little Dixie Conference championship.

He signed a scholarship to play football at Mississippi College, but an injury to his throwing hand ended his career on the gridiron.

Bagley graduated from MC with honors in 1974, and began a brief career as a coach and math teacher, first serving at Warren Central High School and later at Forest High School.

In 1976, he began a new career with Farmers and Merchants Bank in Forest, now known as Community Bank of Forest. Bagley started as a management trainee but quickly climbed the corporate ladder to his current position as President/CEO of Community Bancshares, which includes six banks with over 20 offices throughout Mississippi. The organization has assets in excess of \$1 billion.

Although his banking responsibilities keep him frequently on

the road, Bagley still finds time to be involved in various civic and community activities.

He is a member and past president of the Forest Booster Club and Forest Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of Forest Community Arts and Forest Choral Boosters. He currently serves as treasurer of Forest Friends of the Library. He is also a former member and president of the Forest Lions Club.

Bagley is also a member of Forest United Methodist Church, where he has served as Sunday school teacher for over 25 years in addition to serving in various leadership positions.

He and former Forest Bearcat teammate Jackie Calhoun are in their fourteenth year as announcers for the "Bag and Jack" show, a rebroadcast of Forest football games shown Saturday mornings on Northland Cable Television.

He is married to the former Mary Lynn Rhodes of Forest, who is also an ECCC alumnus. The have three daughters. Brett is married to Dr. Brad Thompson, an optometrist in Forest, and they have an infant son, Wright Majors Thompson. Brett is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and is in her third year at the Mississippi College School of Law. Brooke Bagley is a senior music major at Ole Miss. Bethany Bagley is a freshman chemistry major at Mississippi State University.



Nabers

Nabers was a standout punter on the 1974 and 1975 Warrior squads, receiving honorable mention All-American, All-State and All-Star honors. He averaged 42.7 yards his freshman season and led the nation with his 44.6 yard-average as a sophomore. His longest effort traveled 84 yards, and came on his first punt as a Warrior. He also played tight end for the Warriors, who were 7-2 during the '75 campaign. In addition to playing football, Nabers lettered in baseball his freshman season.

Nabers came to East Central from Winston Academy, where he excelled in football, basketball, baseball and track. He was named All-Conference in football and basketball and participated in the Mississippi High School All-Star Football Game.

He was the first signee in the fall of 1975 by the defending national champions Oklahoma Sooners, and later transferred to Mississippi State University where he was a two-year letterman. He averaged 40 yards per kick in 1979, the second highest average in MSU history. Highlights during the season included a 55-yard effort against Louisiana State University and a 54-yarder in the matchup with the University of Florida. He posted the second-best average in the Southeastern Conference that season.

Nabers graduated from MSU in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in marketing, and soon began a successful career in sales and management. He currently serves as territory manager for Midland Container Company and is owner of Nabers' Companies and Amusement Companies in Louisville.

Prior to joining Midland Container Corporation, Nabers

served as district manager for Weyerhaeuser Paper Company and was earlier employed as sales manager for Pepsi Cola Bottling Company.

Nabers is involved in various community activities, and currently serves as co-youth director at First Presbyterian Church in Louisville. He is also chairman of the annual fund drive for the Palmer House, an orphanage in Columbus sponsored by the Presbyterian Church.

He is married to the former Charlotte Tabor who is principal of Louisville Elementary School. They have one child, Braeden Frances Nabers.



Thomas

Thomas was an All-American and All-State performer in basketball at East Central, where he was a member of the 1960-61 and 1961-62 Warrior squads. He averaged 18.5 points per game during his sophomore season.

He was also a standout at Philadelphia High School, averaging 20.5 points his senior season en route to being named All Choctaw Conference, All District IV, All North Mississippi, All-State and All-Star.

Thomas continued his success on the hardwood at then Delta State College, where he averaged 17 points per game and was a two-year starter for the Statesmen.

He began a coaching career in 1964 at Tunica County High School, posting a 67-24 record over four seasons. He coached boys and girls at Drew High School from 1967-69, compiling a 63-10 record as boys' coach and a 44-20 mark in leading the girls. Following the '69 season, Thomas was selected to coach the North Mississippi Boys' All-Stars and became one of the first individuals to serve as a player and coach on an All-Star squad. He concluded his coaching career at Magee High School, where his teams produced a record of 109 wins and 32 losses during his five years at the helm. His overall record as coach stands at 283-88.

Thomas left the coaching field to pursue a law degree, which he received in 1974 from the Mississippi College School of Law. He is currently a member of the legal firm of Alford, Thomas and Kilgore in Philadelphia.

He is also involved in numerous community and civic activities. He has served as president of the Neshoba County Bar Association, the Philadelphia Rotary Club, the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Chamber of Commerce, and the Mississippi Municipal Attorneys Association. He is also a deacon at East Philadelphia Baptist Church and is serving his fourth consecutive term as chairman of the Deacon's Council. He has served as City Attorney for Philadelphia since 1981.

In addition to community activities, Thomas is an active member of the Tennessee Walking Horse Association. In 1994 he served as president of the Mississippi Walking Horse Association and has been a director of the organization since 1990. Since 1994, he has served as a director of the National Walking Horse Association and currently serves on the Executive Committee. He is also president of the Tennessee

Walking Horse Breeders and Exhibitors Association.

Thomas and his wife, the former Margaret Kirkland of Braxton, who operates *Margaret's*, a fine linen store, reside on a farm where he was reared. They spend most of their time on the farm raising Tennessee Walking Horses for show.

Thomas has a son, Dr. Anthony L. Thomas who resides in Meridian with his wife, the former Suzanne Harrison of Clinton, and their three children, Robert, Harrison and Caroline. Mr. Thomas also has a stepdaughter, Carrie Cornii of Jackson, and two stepsons, Lance Garner and Wesley Garner, both of Philadelphia. Lance is married to the former Ann Pullen of Columbus.



Pierce

Pierce teaches English and Leadership classes at East Central and serves as Chair of the Communications Division.

She was selected the College's HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day; Working Toward Academic Excellence) instructor in 1995; was chosen in 1997 to attend the annual Lamplighter Program, which recognizes the state's outstanding community and junior college instructors; and participated in the Mississippi Community College Fellowship Program in 1997.

She represented East Central as the Outstanding Humanities Instructor at the Natchez Literary Festival in 1998 and also attended the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Seminar in West Cornwall, Connecticut, in 1998. She is past president of the Mississippi Council of Teachers of English and is a member of various professional organizations.

Prior to joining the ECCC faculty in 1994, Pierce taught at Newton and Newton County high schools. She was selected STAR Teacher on three occasions while teaching on the secondary level. She has also served as a member of the ECCC Adjunct Faculty.

She is a member of Clarke-Venable Baptist Church in Decatur, where she has served on numerous committees and currently teaches Sunday school. She has also served two terms on the Decatur Board of Aldermen.

She is a 1968 graduate of East Central Junior College and holds bachelor's and master's degrees in English from the University of Southern Mississippi. In addition, she holds the Educational Specialist degree from Mississippi State University. She has completed additional work at USM, MSU, Mississippi College and the University of Mississippi.

She is married to Billy Pierce, Superintendent of Newton County Schools, and has a son, Wayne Baucum, and a daughter, Cheryl Baucum Amis. Wayne is an engineer for a pipeline company and works on projects throughout the United States. He and his wife, Barbara,

have four children, Jon Marie, Sydney, Savanna and Billie. Cheryl is a teacher at Newton County Elementary School. She and her husband, George, have three children, Colby, Ashley and Jonathan. Mrs. Pierce also has a stepdaughter and two stepsons. Christy Pierce is a registered nurse and works at the Scott County Heath Department. Jason Pierce works full-time for the Mississippi Army National Guard. Jacob Pierce is a junior at Mississippi College in Clinton.



Jordan

Jordan teaches welding at East Central, where he has been employed since 1998. He is also involved with the College's Skill USA/VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America) organization.

Jordan, who previously served the College as a production machine operator instructor through the CETA program, is also a former metal trades instructor at Hinds County Vocational-Technical Center in Raymond. He also has experience as a welder and machinist, having previously been employed at Superior Coach Corporation in Kosciusko.

Among honors he has received include his selection to *Who's Who Among American Teachers* in 2001-2002.

He is a member of the National Association for Career and Technical Education, the Mississippi Association for Career and Technical Education, the Mississippi Junior College Faculty Association and the ECCC Administration, Faculty and Staff Club.

He also holds membership at Sunrise Baptist Church where he has served as Sunday school superintendent and Discipleship Training director.

A graduate of Edinburg High School, Jordan received an associate's degree from East Central Junior College in 1969. He has completed additional studies at Mississippi State University, Jackson State University and the University of Southern Mississippi.

He is married to the former Betty Martin of Edinburg and they have a son, Robert Charles Jordan, and a daughter, Michelle Jordan Smith. Robert is a truck driver for Doug Powers Logging. He and his wife, Tammy, a student in the ECCC Licensed Practical Nursing Program, live in Carthage with their children, Steven Quick and Courtney Jordan. Michelle is a secretary for the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority. She resides in Carthage with her husband, Marc Smith, owner of Smith House Moving and Portable Buildings.

For more information regarding Homecoming 2002, contact the Office of Foundation and Alumni Relations, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 327. (See schedule of activities on page 10.)



THE TOM TOM

The Tom-Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, MS. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the Public Information staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 242.

Accreditation

East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. The college is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

Staff members include editor Jimmy Hall, assistant editor Drew Kenna, and Joshua Hall, Amy Haralson, Ardria Harris, Vicki Powe, Jenna Talbert, Shaletha Wade and SHUwaski Young. Sponsors are Bubby Johnston and Maria McLeod.

ECCC Beauty Pageant Schedule November 5

The annual East Central Community College Beauty Pageant will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 5, 2002, in Huff Auditorium, announced Carol Shackelford, pageant director.

Rick Greene of Madison will serve as Master of Ceremonies and provide entertainment.

Participants will be judged on individual interviews, which are held earlier in the after-

noon, and formal wear. They will introduce themselves at the beginning of the night's pageant.

Beaus, who are elected by the student body, will escort contestants during the pageant. A most handsome will be named in conjunction with most beautiful.

There is no admission and the public is invited to attend.

Wellness Programs Offered By The Student Health Center

October 17 - "Domestic Violence"
Cynthia Granger
Care Lodge
10:45 to 11:20 a.m. in Vickers Fine Arts Auditorium

November
"Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure & Cholesterol Screenings"
Flu Shots
Rush Workforce Wellness
TBA

December 2
"Blood Drive"
United Blood Services
Blood Mobile in the Mall Area
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SPORTS

ECCC Warriors Upset Nationally Ranked Jones 6-3 In Triple OT

Travares Osley's 23-yard field goal in triple overtime proved to be the game-winning boot as East Central Community College upset nationally ranked and previously unbeaten Jones County Junior College in triple overtime Thursday night on a soggy Warrior field in Decatur.

Bobcat place kicker Nicholas Terracina of Barbe, La., had a chance to send the South Division match-up to a fourth overtime but his 39-yard field goal missed the mark, sending the Warrior coaches, players and fans onto the field in wild celebration.

Head coach Terry Underwood was obviously elated following the win, which puts EC's record at 2-4 overall and 2-2 in league competition.

"It was a tremendous victory for our program. To take the number-two team in the nation to overtime and come away with a win is further proof of what an outstanding coaching staff and group of players we have at East Central," Underwood said.

Not only was Jones undefeated and nationally ranked, the defending state champion

Bobcats were riding a 15-game win streak.

Underwood also had praise for Osley, a sophomore line-backer from Hueytown, Ala., who shares kicking duties with defensive end Ken Triplett of Louisville. Although Osley had missed the mark on a 32-yard field goal, which would have won the game in the second overtime, Underwood said he did not hesitate to call on him for another attempt.

"Osley feeds off this type of pressure. He always has a positive attitude and is very confident of his abilities. He told me he could make the kick and I knew he could do it, too," Underwood said.

Triplett, who nailed a 45-yard field goal in the Warriors last-minute loss to Copiah-Lincoln on October 5, missed a 49-yarder in the first overtime period.

Jones, now 5-1 overall and 2-1 in the South, missed on golden opportunities to win the contest in overtime and at the end of regulation. Terracina's 27-yard field goal attempt in the first overtime period was wide left,

and his 20-yard effort with 9.6 seconds left in regulation hit the uprights. He also missed a 36-yarder in double overtime.

Both teams struggled offensively, with the only points in regulation coming on field goals in the second period. Terracina connected on a 27-yarder with just over seven minutes remaining until halftime, and Osley was also successful from 27 yards on his boot with four seconds left before the break.

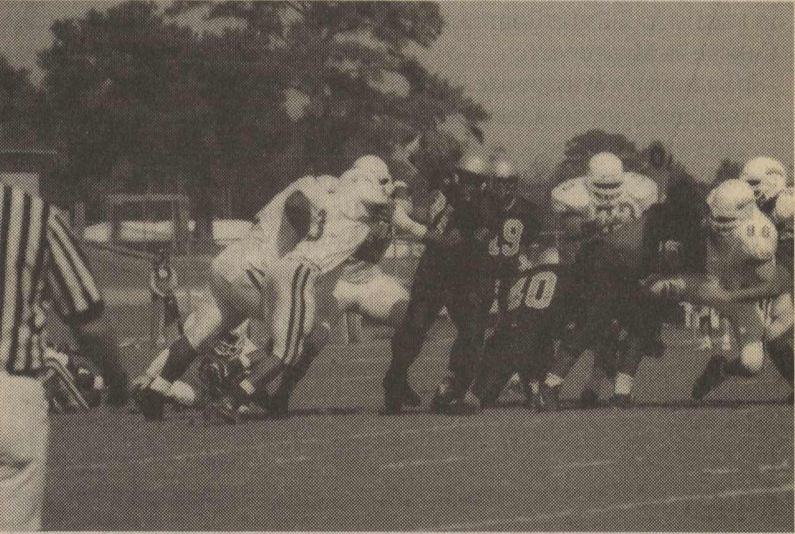
Prior to the division clash, Jones was rated the state's top offensive unit, averaging 338.2 yards. East Central was ranked second with 299.8 yards per contest. But due to the wet field, turnovers, a barrage of penalties and a lot of hard-nosed defense played by both squads, the Bobcats could manage just 202 yards total offense and the Warriors had 118 yards total.

Defensively, Osley led the Warriors from his linebacker spot with 23 tackles, three assists and a fumble recovery, in addition to kicking two field goals. Other top defenders were linebacker Stacey Lewis of Neshoba Central, 14 tackles

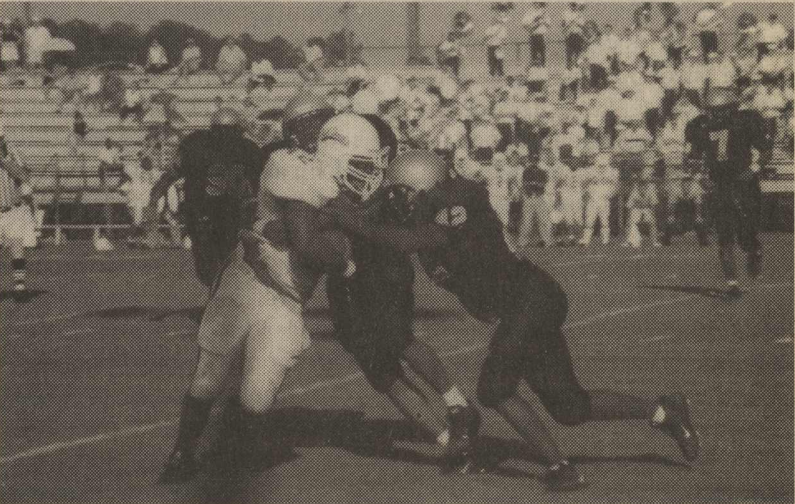
and five assists; linebacker Josh Viverette of Lake, 13 tackles and two assists; strong safety John Hope of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, five tackles, two fumble recoveries and one interception; and cornerback Pete McBride of Forest, seven tackles and one assist.

The upset victory was bittersweet for East Central, as two key players from Louisville were sidelined due to injuries. Free safety Adrian Eiland suffered a broken leg early in the third period and running back Horace Glenn left the game by ambulance in the first overtime period. The extent of his injuries was not known at press time.

East Central observes Homecoming this week, with the Warriors taking on Hinds Community College in a 2:30 p.m. kickoff. The Eagles are 3-2 overall and 1-2 in the division prior to their Saturday match-up with Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Raymond. East Central defeated Hinds 25-16 last year in Raymond.



Titus Ryan (81) pushes through the Gulf Coast Community College defense during the Warriors' 28-21 overtime victory in Decatur on September 28.



The Warrior defense proved too much for the Gulf Coast quarterback as East Central recorded several sacks against the Bulldogs.

All the 'Wright' Moves

Brothers push each other to do their best on the football field



Brothers Jed Wright (left) and Michael Wright (second from left) of Newton and brothers Wesley Wright (third from left) and Adam Wright (right) of Winston Academy push each other to do their very best on the Warrior football field.

When freshman rush end Adam Wright of Winston Academy plays football for the East Central Community College Warriors, he not only has the coaches watching every move he makes, he also has his older brother, Wesley, a sophomore fullback/tight end on the team, making sure he does everything just right.

The same goes for freshman quick guard Michael Wright of Newton whose older brother, Jed, a sophomore, plays noseguard/tackle for East Central.

Since head coach Terry Underwood has been at the College, he said he has "never had brothers playing on the same team at the same time." And certainly he has never had two sets with the same last name!

With four guys named Wright, how do the coaches remember who's who?

"Coach (Tommy) Clopton gets us mixed up sometimes," Jed said.

"But if they want to get on to you, they know your name," said Adam.

Clopton, who coaches the offensive line, doesn't always get on to them though. He had

praise for both Wesley and Michael.

"They are both the kind of people that you like to be around. In meetings and practice, you couldn't ask for anyone to perform any better. They give you everything they've got day in and day and that's all you can ask of anyone," Clopton said.

Underwood, who also serves as defensive coordinator, had praise for Jed and Adam as well.

"Jed is a really good kid who has done everything we have asked. He is a great team player and a quality guy," said Underwood. "Adam is also a great guy who walked on without being promised a scholarship. With good old-fashioned hard work, he earned himself a place on the team and has really played well."

With just a year's difference in their ages, Adam and Wesley, began playing together at Winston Academy.

"We started playing together a couple of years ago at Winston," said Adam.

Michael came to East Central after his senior season at Newton High School. Jed, who also played at Newton, was on the East Central team in 1998,

but had a knee injury that kept him from returning for his sophomore season at that time. Now he's back for a second shot.

Do these brothers ever try to outdo each other?

"We hold each other accountable," said Adam.

"We push each other to do well," agreed Wesley.

"You push yourself every play here (in junior college) or you get hurt. Half speed is not a word in this league," Adam said.

With Adam and Jed playing defense and Wesley and Michael on offense, these brothers also have occasion to play against each other during practice.

"On the field, we line up with one another and push each other," Jed said.

Michael agreed, "It's nice to have someone to try and outdo besides just the other guys on the team."

Wesley added, "Being the oldest, I try to make sure Adam is doing well."

There have been a few times when the brothers 'disagreed' on something.

"Wesley left me at school one day during high school," Adam said. "He said I blind-sided him. I had to call my mom to come and pick me up."

"It was supposed to be a walk-through and he went full speed," Wesley explained.

"I don't know if my mom was more upset with Wesley leaving me at school or with me for taking a cheap shot!" said Adam.

Both sets of brothers agreed that their parents seemed to enjoy having two children on the team.

"I think they enjoy having kids on both sides of the ball (offense and defense)," said Jed.

"Sometimes my mom will take off work just to come to the game," Adam said.

All of the Wrights have enjoyed winning moments during their careers.

Michael and the Newton

Tigers were Division Champions last year and he was selected Second Team All-State.

Jed was selected to play in the Mississippi/Alabama All-Star Game during his senior year at Newton.

After making the game-winning play together in the South State Championship, Wesley and Adam and the Winston Academy Patriots went on to win the State Championship in 2000.

Besides a big win, what's so great about playing football?

"Being on a team and being part of an elite group is the best thing," said Wesley.

Jed agreed. "Not everyone can play at this level. It's great to be a part of the team," he said.

"Everyone is always looking out for you," said Michael.

Perhaps Adam summed it up best when he said, "There are 55 guys on this team who want to win. I'll remember that more than anything else I've learned in school."

Diamond Warriors 2-2 During Fall Season

By Drew Kenna
Tom Tom Asst. Editor

The East Central Community College Diamond Warriors are currently in the middle of their fall season. The team has been practicing and preparing since the beginning of school, running, lifting weights, and practicing hard to improve upon last season.

The Warriors hold a 2-2 record for the fall campaign. Their first win came two weeks ago against Chatahoochee Valley Community College with a score of 7-2. EC took the lead away from Chatahoochee Valley when catcher Joey Holcomb broke up a no-hitter with a double to right field to start the offense for the Warriors.

Itawamba Community College rolled in for the second game of the afternoon for East Central. ICC jumped out to an early lead after a few EC mistakes; but the Warriors managed to tighten the game with a late charge.

However, it was not enough as ICC took the win 7-4.

The offensive leader of the weekend was co-captain Jake Nester of Lake. Nester collected five hits on the afternoon with four singles and one double.

Monday, September 30, East Central took on Co-Lin and Holmes for two nine-inning games. Sophomore Justin Darby provided a spark as he hit the first homerun of the season for the Diamond Warriors. After a long hard fought game, Co-Lin took the game with a final score of 7-6.

After a short break, the Warriors took the field against Holmes Community College. Holmes jumped out to an early 4-1 lead, but the Warrior pitching staff shut the Bulldogs down for the rest of the game giving up only one run. The bats came alive for EC as they took control of the game plating eight runs. EC went on to win the game 9-5.

Freshman Robby Carey of Newton County led the offense

Northeast Lauderdale and sophomore midfielder Brandon Ditto of Brandon. Karweaye and freshman Beau Theobald of St. Aloysius were credited with scoring assists.

East Central began weekend action by battling division foe Meridian Community College to a 2-2 deadlock in double overtime. Karweaye scored both goals for EC, which rallied from a 2-0 deficit.

The Soccer Warriors will meet Pearl River Community College in a key division match-up at 10 a.m. on Homecoming, October 19.

East Central is led by fourth-year head coach Kenneth Thompson and assistant Roy Pete.

in the win collecting three hits. Carey had a single, a double, and a homerun to provide the insurance runs EC needed to close out the game. Carey leads the Warriors with a .538 batting average.

Freshman Michael Dunn of Pascagoula led the Warriors offensively for the day scattering six hits, one double and five singles.

The Diamond Warriors are scheduled to conclude the fall season against Mississippi College on October 11. An intra-squad scrimmage will be held Homecoming weekend.

ATTN: STUDENTS

\$15.00 To Start
Flexible Full-Time
& Part-Time Hours
Interview in Jackson, MS
to work in Meridian
(601) 989-9285
www.workforstudents.com

Former ECCC Wall O' Sound members invited to perform at EC Homecoming

Former members of the East Central Community College Wall O' Sound Marching Band are invited to attend Homecoming festivities on Saturday, October 19 and perform the "Warrior Fight Song" with current band members during halftime of the Warriors' football game with Hinds Community College.

Thomas W. Carson, ECCC Director of Bands, has issued a challenge to his former bands-

men to see if they can still "strut their stuff."

"I just know that our former band members would love to show the young pups how the old dogs can still bark! Now you have that opportunity," Carson said.

Members of the Alumni Band should report to the band hall by 10 a.m. on Homecoming day. "During this time we will spot you a horn, toss you some music

and re-learn the ol' fight song and Warrior, in preparation for the halftime performance," Carson said.

Kickoff for the ECCC/Hinds matchup is set for 2:30 p.m. at Warrior Stadium.

For more information contact Carson at ECCC, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 228. His email address is tcarson@eccc.cc.ms.us.

Math Lab

Located in Ethridge Hall, Room 2

Hours of Operation

Monday & Wednesday- Noon to 3 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday- 1 to 3 p.m.

Staffed by East Central Mathematics Faculty

Help Available for All Math Courses

Government class plans ‘mock election’ for congressional race



Making plans for a campus-wide “mock election” scheduled October 21-22 for the upcoming congressional race are American National Government students (from left) Charisity Tubby Dixon of Carthage, Amanda Wedgeworth of Philadelphia, Kerry Gilmer of Union, and Wendy Savell and Benjamin Stephens, both of Philadelphia.

Will East Central Community College students choose Democrat Ronnie Shows or Republican Chip Pickering?

That’s the question members of Don Price’s American Government Class will find out during a “mock election” scheduled October 21-22 on the Decatur campus.

Price said 80 students in his government classes are involved in conducting the election with the assistance of the College’s Learning Skills Center. He said the purpose of the mock election is to encourage students to vote in the November 5 election.

“We want to stress the importance of voting and at the same time try to determine some of the voting behaviors of the ECCC community,” Price said.

In addition to marking their choice of congressional candidates on the “mock” ballot, students will have an opportunity to answer several questions pertaining to their political views and their ECCC “experience.”

To reach as many voters as possible, polls will be set up in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria, the Student Grill, the Bradford

J. Tucker Applied Technology Center and the Associate Degree Nursing/Child Care Building.

“We have a strong desire to reach a large portion of the student body, especially day students that are in specialized programs who traditionally do not get involved in campus-held elections,” Price said.

Among students who are participating in conducting the “mock election” are business administration majors Charisity Tubby Dixon of Carthage, Kerry Gilmer of Union, and Amanda Wedgeworth and Wendy Savell, both of Philadelphia.

Dixon, 24, said being involved in the campus project comes natural for her, as she comes from a “political” family.

“My father is currently serving his third term as tribal councilman for the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. I feel that whether tribal or state we all have the ability to change things through voting. Being out of school for more than six years and now coming back, I have

to be up-to-date (on politics) because all decisions made affect all our future for the young and old,” Dixon said.

Gilmer, 32, said he is involved in the mock election to encourage student participation in the election process.

“The biggest political problem today is voter turnout. When people don’t vote, they are throwing away their chance to make a difference. The values and principles of American democracy can be promoted by participating in government and exercising the right to vote,” Gilmer stated.

He gave four reasons why people should vote: (1) To exercise one’s right; (2) To voice one’s opinion; (3) To prevent officials from abusing their power; and (4) To improve the quality of life in one’s community.

Gilmer concluded: “Voting is a right given to us and fought for by our military every day. Most people disregard this right and do not fully appreciate the fact they are able to vote. Voting is your civil duty; therefore, if you choose not to vote, do not complain about the condition of your local government.”

Wedgeworth, 24, provided her views on voting: “I sincerely believe that voting is a responsibility we should all take seriously. If you do not vote, then all of your wishes and dreams are left up to someone else to decide. So, go vote!”

Added Savell, 19, “Voting is a right that we Americans have received from our country. As Americans, we need to vote each time the polls are open to keep this right. Voting affects our daily lives more than people realize.”

Stephens, 19, stated: “We sometimes take for granted the rights and privileges afforded this great country. I encourage everyone take part in the voting process.”

Former EC Diamond Warriors among groups to be honored at Homecoming

A reunion of East Central Community College baseball players coached by the late Jamie Clark will be held as part of the College’s Homecoming celebration on Saturday, October 19. Registration begins at 9 a.m. on the East Mall near Mabry Memorial Cafeteria.

Clark, who led the Diamond Warriors from 1988-2001, lost his battle to cancer in July 2001. His teams amassed an overall 365-301-2 mark, which included a state title in 1998.

Ricky Harrison, ECCC drafting and design technology instructor and longtime friend of Clark, is one of the organizers for the reunion. Harrison said among items planned for discussion at Homecoming will be the need for additional funding to complete the various renovations underway at Jamie Clark Memorial Stadium.

“Thanks to a generous donation from La-Z-Boy South in Newton and contributions from numerous individuals, several improvements have already been made at the stadium, many of which were on Coach Clark’s ‘dream list,’” Harrison said.

Recent improvements include the installation of new concrete steps leading from the parking lot to the concession and seat-

ing area, and the construction of concrete sidewalks extending from the concession area to each team’s dugout. In addition, an awning was recently added at the concession area. Construction is currently underway to erect a 24” brick wall around the bottom of the fence extending from dugout to dugout.

Other projects planned include the addition of new vinyl fencing around the backstop, construction of a metal top to cover the grandstand area, and the installation of a new irrigation

system. In addition, renovations are planned for the batting stations.

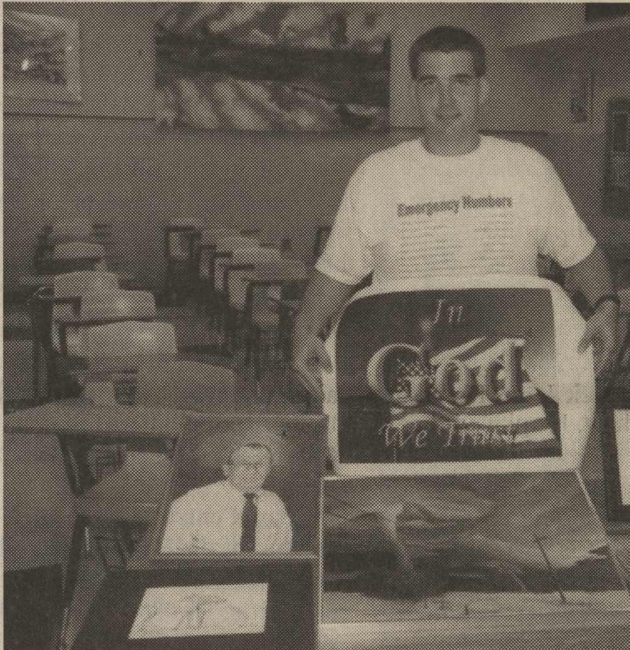
Harrison said contributions for the project should be sent to The Warrior Club, East Central Community College, P. O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 30327, and designated for baseball stadium improvements.

For more information contact Harrison at ECCC, Phone 635-2111 or call toll free, 1-877-462-3222, ext. 257. His email address is rharrison@eccc.cc.ms.us.



Workers are shown puring concrete to construct new steps leading from the parking lot to the concession area, one of many renovations planned for Jamie Clark Memorial Baseball Stadium at East Central Community College.

ECCC alumnus to display artwork



Various forms of artwork by East Central Community College alumnus Jay Murphy of Union will be featured as part of the College’s Homecoming 2002 celebration. A reception to showcase the exhibit – which includes portraits, paintings and computer-generated art – will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday, October 17 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. Murphy, a 1990 graduate of Carthage High School, attended East Central from 1990-92 and took art classes from instructor Bruce Guraedy. Murphy is employed as Illustrator/Writer at Taylor Machine Works in Louisville. He is also an ordained minister and serves as pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in the Stephenstown community. In addition, he ministers to prison inmates on a regular basis. He is married to the former Sherrie Higginbotham of Philadelphia, who is also an ECCC alumnus.

Avoiding the dreaded ‘Freshman 15’

By Amy Haralson
Tom Tom Reporter

Physical fitness is a great concern in our nation today. Roughly half of United States citizens are obese.

Cholesterol and diabetes are among the leading causes of death in the U.S. and obesity has been labeled an epidemic in today’s society.

High school and college students are at a very high risk of complications resulting from obesity and physical unfitness. Eating fast food and fattening snacks like we all do can have severe consequences for all of us.

I won’t lie. I am obese. But I intend to do something about it. I have researched the odds of someone of my height, weight and age contracting certain diseases such as diabetes and heart disease, and I don’t like my odds.

I have decided that no matter how hard it will be, I am going to lose weight. I will eat healthy and exercise to achieve my ideal body shape and size. I invite all of you to do the same.

East Central Community College offers a wide array of healthy pursuits. The walking trail by the College Pond is a serenely picturesque place. A

lot of good can be accomplished by simply walking. The weight room located by the bookstore offers a variety of fitness equipment designed to get you in shape.

Another way to live more healthily is to change the food you eat. Instead of getting a cheeseburger in the Grill, go to the cafeteria and fix yourself a salad. Exercise and healthy eating habits will go a long way toward losing those pounds and firming up that flab.

Please join me in my fight to get healthy. Together we can change those alarming statistics. Help to avoid the dreaded “freshman 15” by living a healthier lifestyle. If the alternatives offered by ECCC doesn’t enthuse you, see a certified nutritionist and go on a diet. I will start my fitness routine by walking around the trail behind the football field on every Monday at four in the afternoon. I hope many of you join me.

Come Worship With Us! Baptist Student Union Activities:

**Monday: Worship service at 8:31 p.m.
in the BSU Center**

**Tuesday: Girls Bible Study
at 9 p.m. in the BSU Center and
Guys Bible Study**

**at 9 p.m. in the Upper Room (enter
the door to the left of the Grill entrance
near the Bookstore)**

**Wednesday: Lunch Encounter at Noon
in the BSU Center**

**Thursday: Bible Study at 7:15 a.m.
in the BSU Center**

2002-2003 Rodeo Schedule

October 17-19	University of West Alabama	Livingston, AL
October 31-November 2	East Central Community College	Philadelphia, MS
November 21-23	Murray State	Murray, KY
February 20-22	Mississippi State University	Starkville, MS
March 6-8	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Tifton, GA
March 27-29	Arkansas State University	Jonesboro, AR
April 3-5	Southwest Missouri State University	Springfield, MO
April 10-12	University of Tennessee at Martin	Martin, TN

Show Up.

Sign Up.

Grow Up.

Rack Up.

Move Up.

Looking for direction? Consider the Army National Guard. We’ll help you improve your shortcomings and discover your strengths. We’ll help build your resume and prepare you to succeed in a career and in life. In fact, with all of the educational training, discipline, maturity, pay, and college funding we offer, you’ll find yourself moving in just one direction: ahead.

**The Army National Guard.
You Can.**

Call 1-800 GO GUARD.



Meet the SBA and Class Officers

By Drew Kenna
Tom Tom Asst. Editor

Each year, the student body association and the freshman and sophomore classes elect officers to represent them. Each week, these individuals meet with Joe Killens, Vice President for Student Services, to discuss issues about campus life, activities and other student needs.

SBA officers include president April McAdory of Neshoba Central, vice president Jimmy Hall of Leake Academy and secretary Ashley Jones and treasurer Megan Logan, both of Newton.

Representing the sophomore class are president Charles Wood of Louisville, vice president David Burt of Newton County Academy, secretary Jamie Stewart of Carthage and treasurer Vicki Powe of Leake Academy.

Freshman class officers include president Rick Lachney of Newton County, vice president Ashley Fleming of Leake Academy, secretary Jennifer Carson of Newton County and treasurer Samantha Partridge of Noxapater.

McAdory is from Philadelphia and attended Neshoba Central High School, where she participated in the Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Band, Jazz Band, and Honors Science Club.

During her freshman year at East Central, she received a leadership award and the Frank M. Cross Freshman Chemistry Award. She was selected president of the Freshman Class, Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Sigma Mu Tau medical club. She was also selected first chair trumpet in the Wall O' Sound Band.

McAdory is a member of Mu Alpha Theta, the Presidents Council, Warrior Corps, Band Council, Jazz Band, Collegians, and Diamond Girls.

McAdory said she decided to run for the office of president so she could "have a voice in campus activities and to be able to find solutions to problems on campus." She would like to see more campus-wide activities.

Hall is from Lena and attended Leake Academy. He was involved in the Beta Club, SADD, Student Council, Yearbook Staff, school newspaper staff, drama club, chorus, and

the Student Christian Organization.

At East Central he was awarded the Margaret Mosal Leadership Award.

He is a member of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, Warrior Corps, Presidents Council, and the Wo-He-Lo yearbook staff. He serves as secretary for Students Against Drunk Driving editor of The Tom-Tom campus newspaper, president of the Environmental Club and RegionaI President for the MS/LA Region of Phi Theta Kappa.

Hall said he ran for vice president because of his friends' influence. One idea that he would like to implement is better parking.

Logan is from Newton and attended Newton High School. She participated in softball, band, annual staff, media club, and First Priority.

At East Central, Logan is in the band, choir, Wesley Foundation, and Phi Theta Kappa. She serves as a student assistant for the Lady Warrior basketball team and also serves on the BSU Council.

Logan was recently elected a sophomore Homecoming Maid. She decided to run for office so she would be more active at East Central. She would like to have more activities for students to be involved in and would also like for every student's voice to be heard.

Jones is also from Newton and attended Newton High School where she participated in Beta Club, Media Club, FBLA, National Vocational Technical Honor Society, First Priority, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. She received the citizenship award, principal's award, and a first place award at the State Future Business Leaders of American competition.

At East Central, Jones is student assistant for the Lady Warrior basketball team. She is a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Baptist Student Union, Phi Theta Kappa, and Wesley Foundation.

Jones decided to run to be more involved in different activities at ECCC. She said she would "like to do anything possible to make this a great school year."

Wood is from Louisville and attended Louisville High School. He is an Eagle Scout and was

selected to the Boys' State Staff. In high school, he was in the band, student government, and Beta Club.

At East Central, Wood is a member of the Warrior Corps, East Central Environmental Club, Phi Theta Kappa and the Baptist Student Union. He serves as president of the President's Council and is a resident assistant for Neshoba Hall.

Wood decided to run because he loves politics and he believed that the sophomore class needed a good voice in the SBA. He said he "would like to see a club geared toward political parties or politics started at East Central."

Burt is from Newton and attended Newton County Academy where he was the valedictorian, Star Student, Senior Class President, FBLA Vice-President and Honor Society President. He participated in basketball, baseball and golf.

At East Central, David participates in the Baptist Student Union, the golf team, intramural sports and Warrior Corps.

He said he ran for this position to be more involved at EC. He would like to implement more student activities.

Stewart is from Carthage and attended Carthage High School where she was in the Band, SADD, FFA, FEA, and 4H.

At East Central, Stewart is a dorm assistant and is a member of the Baptist Student Union.

She decided to run because she thought she was "well qualified for the position."

Powe is from Walnut Grove and attended Leake Academy where she was salutatorian of her graduating class. She received the courtesy award, citizenship award, an EC Scholar's Scholarship, a Coca-Cola Scholarship, and the Linnie Howell Memorial Scholarship.

At Leake Academy, she was involved in the Beta Club, honor society, SADD, drama, chorus, Senior Christian Organization, student council, paper staff, annual staff, and was a teacher's aid.

At East Central, Powe is a member of the Environmental Club, Phi Theta Kappa, Warrior Corps, The Tom Tom staff, Scholar's Bowl, SADD, and President's Council.

She decided to run for this position to have a voice in

campus activities. One idea she would like to implement is more parking for students.

Lachney is from Hickory and attended Newton County High School where he was active in football, power lifting, track, FCA, and journalism.

At East Central, Lachney participates in Warrior Corps, BSU, Wesley Foundation and the drama team.

He decided to run for president because he wanted to represent his class and be in a position where he could make a difference. He would like to see changes in parking zones and a track team added to the athletic program.

Ashley is from Philadelphia and attended Leake Academy where she was the Salutatorian and received the courtesy and citizenship awards and a Coca-Cola scholarship. She also participated in basketball, SADD, Beta Club, Honor Society, Senior Christian Student Organization, and the Drama Club.

At East Central, she is a member of Sigma Sigma Mu Tau, SADD, and SBA. She ran for office because of her friend's influence.

Carson is from Decatur and attended Newton County High School where she was selected Most Talented and was a member of the MS All State Honor Choir. She was also involved in Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Band, Choir, and Show Choir.

At East Central, she is a member of the Collegians, band, choir, Warrior Corps and BSU. She decided to run because so she could "voice her opinions." An idea that she has is an internet network for dorm students.

Partridge is from Noxapater and attended Noxapater High School where she was a member of the softball team, FCA, FFA, Anchor and the Student Council. She also served as editor of the yearbook.

She received the Coach's Award for fast-pitch softball, an ACT scholarship and an American Legion Scholarship.

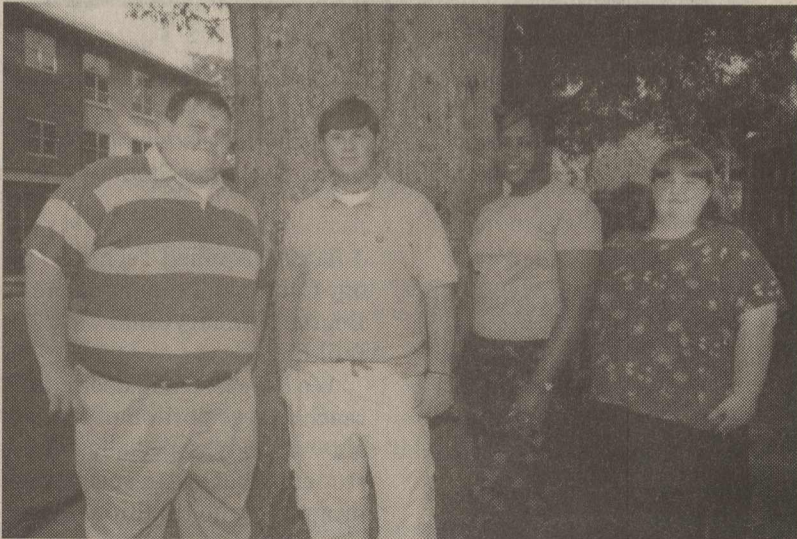
At East Central, she plays varsity softball and is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

While here at EC, she would like to get more students involved in campus activities.



ECCC SBA officers

Selected to lead the Student Body Association at East Central Community College for 2002-03 are (from left) April McAdory, president, of Philadelphia; Jimmy Hall, vice president, of Lena; and Ashley Jones, secretary, and Megan Logan, treasurer, both of Newton.



Serve as sophomore class officers

These students were recently selected sophomore class officers at East Central Community College for the 2002-03 College term. From left are Charles Wood, president, of Louisville; David Burt, vice president, of Newton; Jamie Stewart, secretary, of Carthage; and Vicki Powe, treasurer, of Walnut Grove.



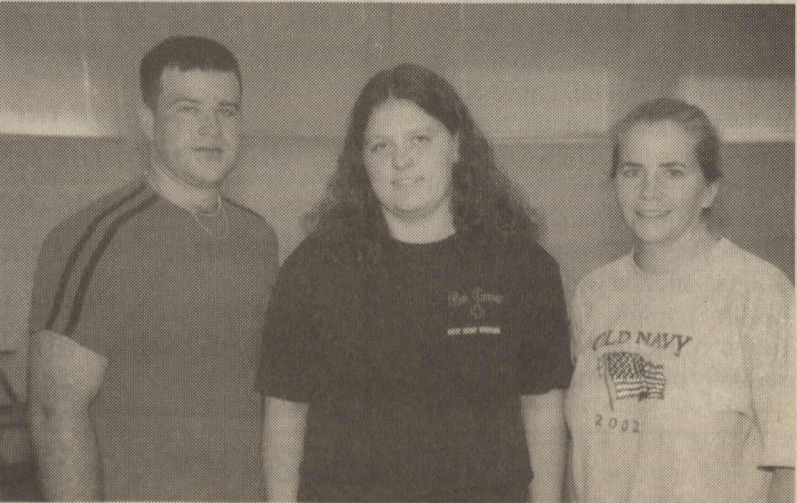
Lead freshman class

Freshman class leaders recently selected at East Central Community College for 2002-03 are (from left) Rick Lachney, president, of Hickory; Ashley Fleming, vice president, of Philadelphia; Jennifer Carson, secretary, of Decatur; and Samantha Partridge, treasurer, of Noxapater.



Donates Blood

Brandi McDougale of Union, a student in the Licensed Practical Nursing program at East Central Community College, is shown giving blood during a recent drive sponsored by the Student Health Center. Also pictured is Terry Jones, a donor technician with United Blood Services in Meridian. According to Gloria Rigdon, college nurse, 44 units were collected during the drive.



SEA officers

Serving as officers of the East Central Community College Student Education Association for the 2002-2003 college term are (from left) president Chris Robinson of Louisville, secretary/treasurer April Jones of Forest and vice president Glenda Brown of Union. Lucille Wood serves as sponsor.

Student Education Association begins a new year

By April Jones
Tom Tom Reporter

The Student Education Association (SEA) has started a new year and invites all education majors to join them. This year's officers are Chris Robinson-

President, Glenda Brown-Vice President, and April Jones-Secretary.

SEA held its second meeting October 1, 2002. The quest speaker was Mrs. Carol Lawson, the Academic Advisor at the Mississippi State Branch-Meridian. She gave very important

information on enrolling at the Meridian Branch and the Praxis. For more information, contact Mrs. Lawson at MSU-Meridian or see your advisor.

Elementary education majors are required to have 12 hours of English (English Composition I; English Composition II;

and a literature class), 12 hours of math (college algebra; the real number system; geometry, measurement, and probability), 12 hours of science (any combination of biology I and II and physical science I and II), speech, a fine arts, growth and development, introduction to elementary education, music for children, introduction to computer concepts or microcomputer applications, and a social and behavioral science (any history). They must also have two letters of recommendation and forty hours of work experience with children. They must have a core curriculum average of 2.75 and an overall average of 2.5.

Secondary education majors' requirements are based on their area of concentration and they should see the catalog for a list of requirements. MSU-Meridian only offers classes for English and social studies majors at this time. The core curriculum average should be 2.5 as well as the overall average.

The Praxis is a requirement for all education majors. The Praxis I can be skipped if the student has a composite score of 21 and no sub scores below 18 on the ACT. The Praxis II is to be taken before applying for the school of education. The student should take the Praxis II in January of their sophomore year so that if the need arises, it can be retaken. The student should send a copy of the test scores to themselves, the state of Mississippi, and their selected senior college.

Teacher Spotlight: Christy Ferguson

By Vickie Powe
Tom Tom Reporter



Years at East Central:
Four.

Courses Taught?
Electronic Spreadsheet, Database Management, Machine Transcription, Medical Machine Transcription, Communication Technology and Three Online Courses.

What prompted you to become a teacher?
My high school vo-tech teacher, Dr. Lisa McMillin.

What is the best and worst part of being a teacher?
The best part would be the student interaction. The worst part would be the constant change. We are always, in my

courses, getting new books, software and programs.

How is teaching vo-tech different than the traditional academic classroom?
In traditional classes, students are ready to transfer to another college at the end of a class, but in my classes, the students are ready to enter the workforce.

Where did you attend college?
East Mississippi Community College and Mississippi State University

Family:
Husband, Jerry; and Children, Leah and Nicole

Correction!
In the September issue of The Tom Tom, the article titled 'Scholars Bowl Changes Routine' was written by Amy Haralson, not Vickie Powe. We apologize for this error.

Families, Friends and Funerals: An Attitude Adjusted

By Thomas W. Carson
Special to The Tom Tom

I hate funeral parlors. There is the usual gang of family members standing around that overpriced coffin, crying on cue as each visitor finally arrives at the “receiving line” for the obligatory hug.

As I look around, thinking about that funeral director ripping these poor folks off and trying to act as he really cares, I realize Tom Carson really does not care to be there at all. I am only at this “event,” as everybody else is, to “see and be seen,” and will soon make that hasty retreat after the “so sorry-this and so sorry-that” chitchat is over.

Hey, what’s the big deal anyway? When I die, just throw me in a wooden box, toss in my guitar and say, “he’s dead, get over it.” After all, both my parents are living, my wife’s parents are living, all my brothers and their families are living, my wife’s brother’s family is all doing well, so, what is the big deal anyway...this whole scene has nothing to do with me. The person is dead, get over it, right.....Right????

Monday, September 23, 2002, changed my life.

I was sitting at my desk around 9 a.m. doing some mundane band related busy work, when a young lady appeared at my door.

“Mr. Carson, do you remember Brittany Bane?” she asked.

Of course, I replied. She continued.

“Brittany was in a car accident.”

Concerned about my former student and Collegians guitarist, I was about to ask how she was doing when the young woman said three words I was not prepared to hear.

“She was killed,” she said.

As I sat in my chair shaking

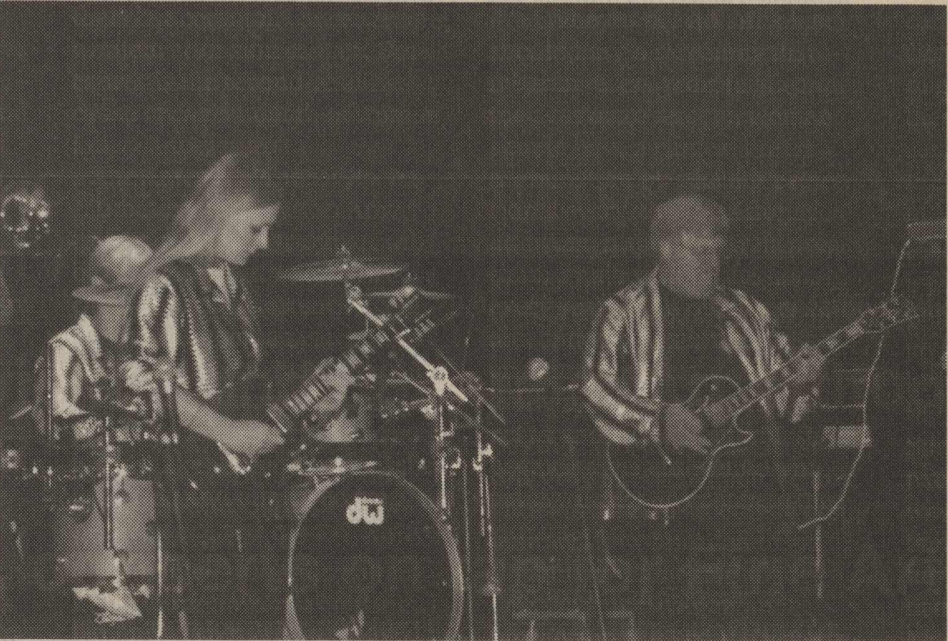
my head, the young lady tried to give me a brief explanation of the situation, but all I heard was, “She was killed.”

I mumbled something about keeping me posted, and the girl left.

Brittany dead? How could this be? I slumped at my desk, not knowing what to do next when the phone rang. On the other end was another former student of mine, Michael Hodgins.

“Mr. Carson,” he said quietly, “have you heard any bad news this morning?”

“Brittany,” I said. Michael and I talked a minute. I asked him about the arrangements and told him that I would be there as soon as I could. He said the family would be grateful to hear that, as I was very important in Brittany’s life.



Brittany Bane and Tom Carson during a Collegians performance in 1999-2000.

Michael also said the family would be asking me to be a pallbearer. As that request meant so much to me, without hesitation, I said I would be much honored to do that.

The rest of the day, I tried to carry on my band director duties, as we were preparing some new show material for the up-coming football game and I felt obligated to earn my pay.

Although I was there physically, my mind could only think of that beautiful, talented young lady and how I needed to get to the funeral home in Philadelphia to be with her mom, her brother and other family members and friends who loved her.

Hold on a minute. Stop right there. Where did he go? That Tom Carson who hated going to funerals? He was NOT on campus depressed all day. He was not driving to Philadelphia with his wife. He was NOT the man who arrived at Stephens Chapel hugging family and friends, standing next to Brittany, wanting to stroke her hair and tell her how much she will be missed. He certainly was not the person looking at all of Brittany’s beautiful photos, many with her playing guitar.

Sure, we cried and hugged, but with the crying and hugging we also talked about Brittany’s music and love for the guitar, her gentle personality, her shyness, and of course her friendly smile when she greeted people.

Her casket was a very beautiful blue with doves flying to heaven on the handle railings. I spent some time that evening admiring that final resting place and thinking how Brittany would have approved. The funeral staff was very efficient, courteous and respectful of all of those in attendance.

As I sat in the parlor holding my wife’s hand and thinking about all the wonderful times Brittany and I shared as teacher and student, the reasons we attend funerals hit home.

Was this situation any different from any previous visitations I had reluctantly attended in the past? Yes, because now I understood. I understood the reason to cry. I understood the importance of flowers. I understood the care taken to find just the right casket. I understood the importance of family and friends gathering around to talk. I understood.

Funerals are not bad. Yes, they are sad and difficult on the emotions, but every funeral is about taking care of your lost child, wife, husband, mother or father, and making sure they are put to rest with the most love and respect you can give.

Having many family and friends together to share this final act of love, I know now, means everything. Those of us close to this 22-year-old, who could play the fire out of a guitar, can sleep tonight knowing she was surrounded by love and was laid to rest peacefully.

Brittany Victoria Bane. September 18, 1980-September 22, 2002.

‘A Stride for Breast Cancer’ Phi Theta Kappa to hold breast cancer walk

This October marks the 18th anniversary of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which grew out of the determination of former first lady Betty Ford, a breast cancer survivor, and her daughter, Susan Ford Bales, whose interest in raising awareness of how breast cancer screenings helps to save lives has led to this annual event.

In conjunction with the American Cancer Society, East Central Community College’s Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society of the two-year college, will hold a “Stride for Breast Cancer” walk Monday, October 28, 2002 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Dick Livingston Recreational Trail.

Lance Hall, Theta Xi’s Vice President for Service, said, “Our chapter will be taking pledges for this walk but donations are

also welcome. All of the money raised will go directly to the American Cancer Society to help with breast cancer research. I encourage everyone that can and will to be supportive of this event.”

According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, after skin cancer. Breast cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in women. Lung cancer is first.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 203,500 American women and 1500 men will be diagnosed with new invasive cases of breast cancer in 2002 and 40,000 deaths will be caused by it. The ACS also states that the significant decrease in mortality rates from 1992-1998 is most likely due to both earlier detection and improved treat-

ment.

Following the American Cancer Society’s guidelines for the early detection of breast cancer improves the chances that breast cancer can be diagnosed at an early stage and treated successfully. Guidelines are:

(1) Women age 40 and older should have a screening mammogram every year; (2) Between the ages of 20 and 39, women should have a clinical breast examination by a health professional every 3 years. After age 40, women should have a breast exam by a health professional every year; (3) Women age 20 or older should perform breast self examination every month. By doing the exam regularly, you get to know how your breasts normally feel and you can more readily detect any change. If a

change occurs, such as development of a lump or swelling in the breast or underarm area, skin irritation or dimpling, nipple pain or retraction (turning inward), redness or scaliness of the nipple or breast skin, or a discharge other than breast milk, you should see your health care provider as soon as possible for evaluation. However, remember that most of the time, these breast changes are not cancer.

Encourage the women in your life, whether it be your mother, grandmother, sister, wife, daughter or just a friend, to follow these guidelines for early detection.

To make a pledge or donation to Theta Xi’s “Stride for Breast Cancer” walk, contact any Phi Theta Kappa officer or sponsor.

Art shows, concerts on tap for Fine Arts Division

By Joshua Hall
Tom Tom Reporter

The fall semester is a busy one for the East Central Community College Fine Arts Division, which has many performances scheduled.

The East Central Community College art department will present two art shows this semester, according to Bruce Guraedy, art instructor and Chairman of the Division of Fine Arts.

The first show will be held Thursday, October 17, and will feature the artwork of alumnus Jay Murphy, Class of 1992. It will be held in conjunction with the College’s Homecoming celebration on October 19.

The second show is the annual Fall Juried Art Show and will feature drawings, paintings, designs, ceramics and various other art forms created by East Central students. It is scheduled from 6:30 to 9 p. m. Thursday, November 21.

All artwork will be displayed in the lobby of the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center.

This semester won’t be a light one for the Wall O’ Sound Marching Band, according to Director of Bands Thomas W. Carson.

“The Wall O’ Sound will be the featured exhibition band during the Region III High School Marching Festival in Meridian on October 12. The Wall O’ Sound also has five Christmas parades scheduled. They are as follows: December 2, Morton; December 3, Sebastopol; December 6, Forest and Decatur; December 7, Newton.”

Carson also said the Wall O’ Sound Drumline has performances scheduled for the second week of November at Carthage, Scott Central, Neshoba Central, Forest, and Newton high schools.

Always a crowd pleaser, The Collegians will perform for a Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) Conference

on November 1 and the group’s annual fall campus concert will be November 18. They will finish up pre-Thanksgiving performances on November 22 when they perform for the Student Library Assistants of Mississippi (SLAM) Conference. All of the above concerts will be held in Huff auditorium.

The Accents, led by music keyboard instructor Vickie Blaylock, will present their fall concert at 7 p.m. December 5 in

Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

First-year director Len Bobo and the Concert Choir will perform their annual fall concert Monday, November 25, in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

For more information on any of the East Central Community College performing groups or the art shows, contact Guraedy at 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229.

Warrior Wall O’ Sound
Marching Band
Christmas Parade
Schedule

Monday, December 2-Morton
Tuesday, December 3-Sebastopol
Friday, December 6-Forest & Decatur
Saturday, December 7- Newton

‘Isidore’ is no problem for these ECCC students!



Even Tropical Storm Isidore couldn’t keep these East Central Community College students from having a good time. As heavy winds and rain came down on the Decatur campus during late September, this group of students found that playing in the mud and sliding down the wet hillside was much more fun than keeping dry! Pictured are (front row, from left) Jennie Battle of Philadelphia, Lindsey Cheatham of Decatur, Nikki Tullos of Philadelphia, Kelly Cumberland of Leake Academy, Kate Bergin, Kelly Whitesell and Amanda Alford, all of Forest; and Adam Wright of Winston Academy; and (back row, from left) Chris Huff of Forest and Brody Perkins of Carthage.



Erica Tullos makes her way down the “homemade” slide.



Lindsey Cheatham, Jennie Battle and Adam Wright enjoy a “mud bath.”

Homecoming Bon Fire Pep Rally
6:30 p.m. • Thursday, October 17
Band Practice Field

Quick Communication

Meridian, MS • 483-6807

State-Wide Unlimited Paging \$9.95 Per Month

Pagers Starting at \$39.95

(Includes Pager, Activation and First Month)

We Also Offer Voice Mail &
Alpha-Numeric with E-Mail Address

Nation-Wide • Regional

Let Us Help You Keep In Touch!

Available at:

D&D Pawn
Decatur, MS
635-4199

Forest Wireless
Forest, MS
460-0680

H&H Pawn
Union, MS
774-5126

DON’T MISS
Phi Beta Lambda’s
“PICK-A-PUMPKIN”
SALE!

To Benefit the March of Dimes
November 4-12

\$1 Each

Mabry Memorial
Cafeteria &
Tucker Applied
Technology Center

Pumpkins Will Be
Displayed on the Glass
In the Cafeteria and the
Entrances to Tucker ATC



ECCC ADN Students Named Delegates

These East Central Community College Associate Degree Nursing students were recently elected first-year delegates to the Association of Student Nurses state convention scheduled later this month in Biloxi. From left are Kimberly Hancock of Taylorsville, Brecken Rush and Deanna Gunn, both of Carthage; and Jennifer Watkins of Philadelphia.



Convention Delegates

These members of the Association of Student Nurses at East Central Community College (ASNEC) were recently selected to serve as second-year delegates for the organization's state convention scheduled later this month in Biloxi. From left are Associate Degree Nursing students Beth Wedgeworth and Narja Bryce, both of Forest; Tammy Faulkner and Lu Ann Gould, both of Morton; and Darlene Thomas of Noxapater.



Named to ECCC ADN Hall of Fame

Beth Wedgeworth (left) of Forest and Bobby Martin of Carthage were recently named to the Associate Degree Nursing Hall of Fame at East Central Community College. They received the honor at the September meeting of the Association of Student Nurses (ASNEC) at the College. To qualify for the prestigious honor, students must meet the following criteria: maintain a 3.0 grade point average, demonstrate leadership in the nursing organization, provide assistance to classmates and colleagues in a professional manner, be actively involved in the student nursing organization as well as other campus activities and promote the image of nursing through their actions.



Lead ECCC Nursing Organizaition

Selected to serve as officers for the Association of Student Nurses at East Central Community College (ASNEC) are, seated from left, Beth Wedeworth, president, and Kimberly Hancock, vice president, both of Forest; and standing from left, Shancey Young, secretary, of Forest; Dawn Bailey, treasurer and Heather Cater, reporter, both of Decatur. Sponsors are ADN instructors Dana Dear and Tammie Edwards.



Candidates for State Office

Three Associate Degree Nursing students at East Central Community College are preparing to run for state office at the annual Mississippi Association of Student Nurses (MASN) convention scheduled later this month. From left are Darlene Thomas of Noxapater, incumbent candidate for ADN representative; Bobby Martin of Carthage, who is campaigning for second vice president; and Beth Wedgeworth of Forest, who is seeking the office of first vice president. If elected, the students will also serve on the MASN Board for 2003.

The Mississippi Room: A case of college memories

By Jenna Talbert
Tom Tom Reporter

Many people think that East Central Community College's library is merely comprised of books, but that is where they're wrong!

"We want our patrons to know that we offer much more than books and magazines," said Gloria Johnson, head librarian.

Though unknown to many students, the library boasts a room simply titled "The Mississippi Room." This room, which is located at the north end of the library, contains books about Mississippi as well as works of Mississippi authors. There are also two display cases in this room. One is a collection of "ECJC" memorabilia and is of particular interest.

When the college was founded in 1928, it was named East Central Junior College and also included the Newton County Agriculture High School. However, on Tuesday, December 15, 1987, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to change the name to East Central Community College.

This change was largely due to the rising enrollment and expansion of the campus. Though confident that this change was needed, many people experienced some grief at the thought of leaving things in the past.

Then-president Dr. Eddie M. Smith said at the time, "...I feel the twinge of emotion as we put aside the name that has identified our college...since 1928."

The exhibit case contains

many treasurers from the ECJC time. Many were donated by retired English instructor Ovid Vickers and Lucille Wood, Chairperson of the Social Science, Business Administration and Education Division and former basketball coach.

There are formal dining plates, pictures, pictures, a women's basketball uniform, coasters, bumper stickers, keychains, a gavel, a hat and a unique ashtray.

The ashtray was sold in the bookstore during the college's 50th anniversary celebration. However, what makes the ashtray unique is that it is portable and collapsible. Apparently, during the period before federal regulations banned smoking in some public facilities, a person could smoke anywhere on campus. Due to the impracticability of placing standard ashtrays everywhere, these alternatives were sold in the bookstore. A student or faculty member could smoke anywhere, place the ashes inside the ashtray, close it and later empty it. Pretty nifty, huh?

Also inside the case is a black straw hat with long black streamers. This hat belonged to Mrs. W.W. Newsome.

"Mrs. Newsome was one of the very first members of the faculty at ECJC," explained Vickers, who donated the hat for the exhibit. "Mrs. Newsome was required to wear this hat when she was in school at MSCW, now known as Mississippi University for Women."

Looking back at the hat is like taking a step back in time. It rests in the display case nestled

among plates and bumper stickers as yet another piece of ECJC's history.

The display also contains an old ceramic jug. This jug is a very simple white jug with ECJC painted on the side in black. Many years ago, Eddie Johnson of Philadelphia gave the jug to Vickers. Eddie Johnson's father made pottery and formed this jug, which looks very much like the old whiskey jugs you would see on shows such as "The Beverly Hillbillies."

Vickers said, "Mr. Johnson was blind, and the jug he designed is a wonderful example of how a person can overcome a handicap."

Full of treasured memorabilia, the beautiful exhibit case itself has a story.

"When we first began this project last year, it was in the middle of the school year, so there was no money in the budget allocated for such an expense," explained Johnson.

Such a small problem was not to be an obstacle, so the librarians turned to Mike Dearing, Director of the College's Physical Plant, who in turn directed them to campus carpenters, Dewey Nelson and Ken Massey.

A trip to the storage area led Nelson and Massey to a cabinet that could be reworked. After retrieving four legs from the garbage, they installed a glass door, added shelves, fluorescent lighting, molding and a lock. Once they had thoroughly stained it, they had transformed the cabinet.

"They literally changed trash into treasure," said Johnson. "And we're very grateful for the

beautiful exhibit case that only cost us a few dollars."

The work that has been accomplished by Johnson and assistant librarian Gail Wood is remarkable. They have not only put together this case of ECJC memorabilia, but, they, and previous librarians, also have an extensive amount of archives from 1928 until now.

These archives are amazing and contain such things as a diploma from 1931 and a yearbook from the 1929-30 year that is completely handwritten.

The librarians wish to continue this tradition.

"I would love to have a display near the front entrance of the library containing things native to the state, such as pottery and other artifacts," said Johnson.

"We need one for ECCC memorabilia too," adds Wood. "We would gladly accept donations of memorabilia," said Wood.

"And a display case," Johnson added and laughed.

How do they feel about their display?

"I think it is absolutely wonderful. It is something that we've always wanted and I'm just thrilled that it's happening," said Johnson.

Vickers agreed. "I think it is a great idea and I would hope that anyone who has objects or memorabilia from the ECJC years would donate them to the college to be put in the display case," he said.

"It is a part of our mission to preserve and promote the history of the college and this is an excellent way of meeting that goal," said Johnson.

Mexico on 35¢ a day: A Collegian adventure

by Thomas W. Carson
Special to The Tom Tom

Once a year, 3 a.m. always comes early. The routine is always the same. I get up at 2 a.m., eat cereal, throw my suitcase in the back of my truck and head to the ECCC campus where I will encounter 20 eager Collegians already picking out their spot on the EC bus in anticipation of our annual national tour.

This past summer, we headed southwest to the tourist mecca of San Antonio, Texas. As we do every summer, our primary focus was an invited performance at a national venue. Sea World was our "stage" on May 17, 2002.

As my good friend and driving guru Mike Dearing headed down that long stretch of I-20, our first concern was, of course, finding the first Shoney's across the state line. There it was in Beaumont. The breakfast buffet ready and waiting!

After 12 hours of watching "Deuce Bigelow, Male Gigolo" over and over on the TV because no one remembered to bring any more movies, we finally arrived in the heart of San Antonio, just a stone's throw from the historic Alamo. Our next order of business, after unpacking and discovering that several of the rooms at the "resort hotel" smelled like a septic tank had exploded in the beds, we headed to the famous "river walk" where we enjoyed a great Texas barbeque at a place called The County Line.

Since our performance was not until Friday, I decided to spend Wednesday in the educational mode and carry the kiddies to Mexico!! This was great; Mariachi street bands, skinned baby goats roasting in café windows, dirty homeless children selling terrible tasting gum, street hustlers hawking "genuine Mexican" trinkets in Taiwan, and oh yes, the pushy hammock



Collegians at Sea World

Members of the Collegians pose for a photo at Sea World. They include (kneeling) director and guitarist Thomas W. Carson; (front row, from left) Andy Polizzi of Meridian, Jennifer Savell of Newton County High School, Kristin Thornton of Edinburg, Megan Tramill of Newton, Kirk Misso of Neshoba Central, Claire Edgar of Union, April McAdory and Grant Morris, both of Neshoba Central; Chris Carson of Newton County, Michael Eichelberger of Leake Academy and Marcus Williams of Brandon; and (back row, from left) Josh Black of Neshoba Central, Josh Burton of Newton County, George Edwards of Louisville, Lucas Pope of Neshoba Central, Damein Wash of Newton County, Matt Baldridge of Philadelphia, Andy Murphy of Southeast Lauderdale and Matt Hedrick of Newton County.

vendors.

This and much more was for the taking as we paid our 35 cent fees to cross over the pedestrian bridge from Laredo, Texas, to Nuevo Laredo Mexico.

As my wife and I wandered down Guerrero Street, while being harassed by a young shoe shine boy, I asked him (in my fluent Spanish, of course) where all the other tourists were, as we seemed to be the only "Americanos in the town that day. Manolo replied, "This is Wednesday. The tourists come on weekends. Now teach me some English while I shine your shoes."

I must say that was the best shoeshine I have ever had and even though he was going to charge me \$3, I gave him \$10. As he drove away in his BMW,

I wondered if I had not been the first person to feel sorry for him and give him more than he asked.

After much hammock buying and Mrs. Carson experiencing rotten chicken meat at the local fine restaurant, we all headed back across the border for the drive back to San Antonio.

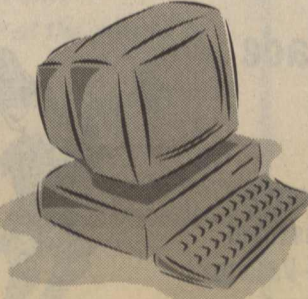
Thursday was Alamo/River Walk boat ride/Tex-Mex restaurant day. A great Mexican meal is always better when you have a live mariachi band singing over your re-fried beans. Got TUMS? The Collegians and I puzzled that most of the mariachi bands we heard only knew the song "La Bamba," a Cuban song.

Friday was finally here and we were pumped to hang out with Shamu and rock out to thousands of.....whiney, runny-nosed

school kids??? Yup, that's right, it was "field trip day" at Sea World and the Collegians were fair game for about 10,000 little ones.

After our morning concert, complete with kids trying to dance as their teachers and chaperones went berserk trying to keep them in line, we got to enjoy the 100 degree heat, water shows and high speed rides. I passed on the rides.

Saturday, was travel day as we headed back home, looking forward to Mom's cooking and a pizza stick at Spanky's. As the Collegians unpacked the bus, the traditional question came up. "Where are we going next summer?" Please kids! I need until next summer to recover from this one!



The Learning Skills Center

Newton Hall Room 112

Free Tutoring Services Available!

Monday-Tuesday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



ECCC Phi Theta Kappa inductees
Twenty-one new members were inducted into Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, during the fall semester. They included (first row, from left) Maranda Burks of Philadelphia, Dawn Cotton of Decatur, Kelly Cumberland of Philadelphia, Chris Davis of Louisville and Eric Gunn of Forest; (second row, from left) Elizabeth Jones of Collinsville, Dana Massey of Decatur, Kyle Miller of Preston, Linda Moody of Walnut Grove and Lori Nichols of Union; (third row, from left) Brody Perkins of Carthage, Cole Pope of Forest, Vickie Powe of Walnut Grove, Alex Shepard of Sebastopol and Kristin Swindle of Louisville; and (back row, from left) Jennifer Walker of Philadelphia, Amy Wilkerson of Picayune, Stephen Goodlow and Todd Butler, both of Forest; and Richard Walker of Hickory. Not pictured is Amy Campora of Newton. (Photo by Amy Haralson)



ECCC Phi Theta Kappa inductees
New members of the East Central Community College Warrior Corps were recently selected. They include (first row, from left) Renee Thompson of East Rankin Academy, Courtney Puckett of Winston Academy, C. Jae Sullivan of Nanih Waiya, Elizabeth Kinard of West Lauderdale, Amanda Wyatt of Newton County Academy, Lacey Sanborn of Noxapater and Vickie Powe of Leake Academy; (second row, from left) Lindsay Thomas of Leake Academy, Brandi Brown of East Rankin Academy, Tracey Blackwell and Heather Palmer, both of Union; Kristin Hedrick of Newton County and Shelley Johnson of Newton; (third row, from left) Nakita Ragsdale of Forest, Mary Lois Thomas, Krissi Harris, Kery McDill and Blair Andreson, all of Newton County; and Jennifer Walker of Neshoba Central; (fourth row, from left) Ashley Buckman of Heidelberg Academy, Erica Hall and Kelly Whitesell, both of Scott Central; Many Eakes and Linsey Cheatham, both of Philadelphia; and Monica Allen of Union; (fifth row, from left) Carrie Shrock of Leake Academy, Rachel Smith of Grace Christian School, Jennifer Carson of Newton County, Amy Warner of Winston Academy and Kelly Cumberland and Christen Herrington, both of Leake Academy; and (back row, from left) Richmond Lachney of Newton County, Katie Ford of Newton County Academy, Jeffery Brantley of Scott Central, Dan Henry of Newton County Academy, Lance Hall of Forest, Andrew Henry of Carthage, Jeremy Hamm of Union, Chris Bounds of Newton County Academy, Daniel Dunlap and Gabe Snow, both of Louisville; and Brandon Walker of Nanih Waiya. Michael Alexander serves as sponsor.



2002 Homecoming Court
Members of the 2002 East Central Community College Homecoming Court include (from left) freshman maids Mandy Eakes of Philadelphia, Nikki Anthony and Amy Reed, both of Louisville; and Shelley Johnson of Newton; queen Jennifer Walker and maid of honor Cassie Henson, both of Philadelphia; and sophomore maids Megan Logan of Newton, Lindsey Cheatham of Decatur and Paige Posey of Philadelphia. The court will be presented Saturday, October 19, during halftime of the Warriors' game against Hinds Community College. Kickoff is set for 2:30 p.m.

ECCC Haunted House of Hoops!

**Wednesday, October 30
8 p.m.
Brackeen-Wood Gymnasium**

**8 p.m.
Performance by the East Central
Community College Cheerleaders and Centralettes**

**8:15 p.m.
Lady Warrior Scrimmage**

**8:30 p.m.
Introductions of Lady Warriors and Warriors**

**8:45 p.m.
Warrior Scrimmage**

**9 p.m.
Lady Warrior 3-Point Shot Contest
Warrior Slam Dunk Contest**

**Winner of the Student Costume Contest
Gets a Half Court Shot
for a Chance at a Full-Tuition Scholarship**

Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow

*Homecoming Schedule of Events
October 19, 2002*

9 a.m.
Reunion Groups Meet-East Mall Near Cafeteria
• All Classes Ending in "2"
• ECCC Baseball Teams from 1998-2001
• ADN Alumni Association
• Alumni Band and Centralettes
• Classes of 1957, 1958 & 1959

10 a.m.
Welcome by Dr. Phil Sutphin
Awarding of Diplomas to Class of 1952
Soccer Game-EC Soccer Field- Warriors vs. Pearl River

10:15 a.m.
Honorees' Meeting-Board Room, Vincent Administration Building

11 a.m.
Luncheon Seating for Honorees-Mabry Memorial Cafeteria

11:30 a.m.
Alumni Luncheon-Mabry Memorial Cafeteria

2:30 p.m.
Football Game-Warrior Stadium-EC vs. Hinds
After Game Reception
Mabry Memorial Cafeteria

Read It In
The Tom Tom!

Please send news items to the Public Information
Office or see any staff member.



THE TOM TOM

Volume 56, Number 3

A Student Publication of East Central Community College

November 2002

EC Dinner Theater Scheduled Nov. 21-23 in Mabry Cafeteria

Tickets are still available for the East Central Community College dinner theater production of William Ingle's *Bus Stop*, scheduled November 21-23 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Admission is \$15 per person.

Bus Stop is the story of five people who have to spend the night in a diner outside Kansas City, Kan., during a howling snowstorm. The passengers include a night club singer who is being pursued by a love-struck cowboy; a middle-age scholar who comes to terms with himself; the bus driver and the proprietor of the café, who develop a friendship of their own; and a young waitress who gets her first taste of romance. All the characters are looking for something, and it takes a layover at a country diner to find out what.

Members of the cast and crew include Jill Clanton (Cheri) of Lawrence, Leslie

Middlebrook (Grace) of Meridian, Laura Shook (Elma) of Newton, Lee Dooley (Bo) of Lake, Josh Hall (Virge) of Morton, Kiel May (Will) of Vicksburg, Joshua Ray (Carl) of Carthage, Adam Huffman (Dr. Lyman) of Philadelphia, assistant director Amanda Sanders of Carthage, prop mistress Heather Neese of Meridian and technical director Casey Smith of Louisville. ECCC speech instructor George Vaughn serves as production director. Regina Rigby of Forest serves as director.

The menu for each night's performance includes barbeque chicken breasts, country fried steaks, Swedish meatballs, fried mozzarella cheese sticks, Italian green beans, bakes beans, creamed potatoes, buttered rolls, chocolate pie/lemon ice box pie/pecan pie, tea and coffee.

For ticket information call toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 215.



Cast members for the East Central Community College production of William Ingle's *"Bus Stop"* are shown prior to a recent rehearsal. Front row, from left are Adam Huffman of Philadelphia, Leslie Middlebrook of Meridian, Jill Clanton of Lawrence, Laura Shook of Newton and Joshua Ray of Carthage. In back are Kiel May (left) of Vicksburg and Lee Dooley of Lake.

Students voice opinions during mock election

By Shuwaski Young
Tom Tom Reporter

East Central Community College students in Don Price's government classes held a mock election during the month of October concerning issues on politics and campus policies. An estimated 1700 students were on campus during the election and approximately 29 percent of the student body participated.

Ballot booths were located throughout the campus. Issues concerning the college dress code, housing fees and lack of student parking were just a few of the items that were addressed.

According to the survey, a high percentage of students said they should have the right to dress as they please. Of the 505 students that voted, 430 said students should be able to wear what they want when wake up in the morning. Only 75 people thought there should be some type of dress code enforced on campus.

Another question on the

survey asked if students would be willing to participate in an official forum with faculty and administrative staff to discuss issues from parking to school fees to co-ed housing. During the forum, students would be given the chance to talk one-on-one with administrative personnel and faculty members.

Ironically, 227 students said they would not be interested in a forum compared to only 199 who said they would like to have the opportunity to voice their opinions.

When asked about the possibility of a war with Iraq, 338 students out of 505 said they believed the US economy is more important than sending American soldiers to war.

In the election between Republican Congressman Chip Pickering and Democratic Congressman Ronnie Shows for the newly drawn third district seat in the House of Representatives, the majority of students chose the Republican candidate. Pickering had 549 votes to Shows 107. Fifty students were undecided.

East Central Gospel Choir Plans November 20 Concert

East Central Community College's Gospel Choir will present its fall concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday, November 20 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium on the Decatur campus. There is no charge for admission.

The talented group is under the direction of ECCC staff

member Brenda K. Johnson of Lawrence.

ECCC Board of Trustees member Delane Hudson of Louisville will serve as guest speaker.

Also schedule is a performance by the Meridian Community College Gospel Choir directed by the Rev. Scottie Cole.

Community colleges continue to face financial challenges

Education funding on the community college level in Mississippi has suffered several blows in the last three years to the point that all 15 two-year schools in the state have had to face grave challenges as enrollments continue to increase.

This decline in funding from the Mississippi Legislature has come at a time when community colleges have expanded their mission at the request of the legislature and the public over the last several years to include such things as workforce training, distance learning opportunities and the development of a teacher preparation initiative, as well as expanding traditional programs. The community college system has suffered the largest decrease of any of the educational agencies.

According to the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, the state legislature has sliced \$47.7 million, or 23.2 percent, from community and junior colleges since fiscal year 2000 even though enrollment grew by 5,000 students during that same time frame.

Through prudent financial management, community colleges have been able to minimize the impact these cuts have had on students and the quality of educational programs while continuing to place emphasis on service to students.

"Our two-year colleges are resilient and they are going to continue to serve, but if this funding trend continues, you are going to see some services curtailed, and we are going to lose many additional faculty and staff positions," said Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges in Mississippi.

Community colleges have cut travel, materials, supplies and equipment as much as possible, and many have had to examine programs and services. They have explored every area of operations and ways to cut expenses, which includes eliminating positions. They have also had to look to their supporting counties for additional funding.

Given the state's dire financial condition, tuition hikes have become a necessary evil at all 15 two-year colleges. That has helped make up some of this loss, but Stonecypher is quick to add, "One of our objectives is to provide quality instruction at an affordable cost. You always run the risk of cutting out somebody who does not have the resources to take advantage of what our schools offer."

That's why Stonecypher feels that community colleges should be afforded a larger portion of state funding due to the increase in the

number of students served.

And when the numbers come in for this fall, he expects enrollment numbers to continue on an upward trend. "Everybody I have talked to has indicated an increase in students," he said.

Historically, community colleges have been the entry way to quality, affordable higher education for many, many Mississippians. They have been a place where students can pursue a degree or certificate in one of many programs or learn new skills for the workplace. Providing a quality education will always remain a priority.

Stonecypher and the community college presidents recognize the challenge facing members of the State Legislature.

Dr. Phil A. Sutphin, president of East Central Community College in Decatur, said it is getting more difficult for EC to offer the services needed in the five-county area due to the substantial decrease in funding from the state coffers.

"During the three-year period from FY2000 to FY2003, East Central has experienced enrollment growth of 12.3 percent, or the equivalent of two full-time instructors. However, during that period we have had to leave nine positions vacant for budgetary reasons because our funding from the State of Mississippi has decreased 21.2 per-

cent. Also during the period of reduced funding, the College has experienced tremendous growth in workforce training. Even with this reduction in resources, our follow-up studies continue to document a high level of performance by our former students but how long can the College continue to offer this high level of quality when the resources continue to decrease. Further, an economic impact study conducted for East Central documented that the College is responsible for 2.3 percent of the economy of our five-county district with a return of \$15.90 for every tax dollar invested in the College over a 30-year pay-back," Dr. Sutphin said.

Dr. Sutphin reiterated that a critical funding situation exists for the state's community and junior colleges. Community and junior colleges play a major role in the economic vitality of the communities in which they operate and to jeopardize the mission of the colleges is to jeopardize the future of the areas served.

East Central serves Leake, Neshoba, Newton, Scott and Winston counties.

(Article written by Chuck Abadie, director of public relations at Pearl River Community College in Poplarville.)



East Central Community College's show choir, the Ac'cents, will perform their fall campus concert December 5 in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. Members include (front row, from left) Nathan Evans of Chunky, Steven Irby of Meridian and Lee Dooley of Lake; (second row, from left) Kristin Hedrick of Conehatta, Mary Lois Thomas of Decatur, Dinah Howell of Little Rock, Amy Chamblee and Lisa Chamblee, both of Carthage; and Emily Mayes of Decatur; and (back row, from left) Johnny Jones of Newton, Luke Howell of Little Rock, Damein Wash of Hickory and technicians Chris Moody and Adam McAdorey, both of Louisville. Vicki Blaylock serves as director.

ECCC Ac'cents to Present Concert Dec. 5

East Central Community College's show choir, the Ac'cents, will perform their fall campus concert December 5 in Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

They will perform such hits as Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," Hank Williams Jr.'s "Jambalaya," Dwight Yoakam's "Crazy Little Thing Called Love," "Baby It's Cold Outside" from the motion picture Neptune's

Daughter, "Be With You" made popular by Enrique Iglesias, Aretha Franklin's "Respect," and Celine Dion's "That's the Way It Is," plus many, many more.

Director Vicki Blaylock, who also serves as music keyboard instructor, said, "This group is basically new with only one sophomore returning from last year's ensemble. I am really excited about the potential of

the group and how quick they are learning the shows. They may set the precedent for future Ac'cents members. The public will not want to miss this semester's exciting show!"

Members include Nathan Evans of Chunky, Steven Irby of Meridian, Lee Dooley of Lake, Kristin Hedrick of Conehatta, Mary Lois Thomas and Emily Mayes, both of Decatur; Dinah Howell and

Luke Howell, both of Little Rock; Amy Chamblee and Lisa Chamblee, both of Carthage; Johnny Jones of Newton, Damein Wash of Hickory and technicians Chris Moody and Adam McAdory, both of Louisville.

East Central alumnus Ricardo Robinson of Decatur, now a student at the University of Southern Mississippi, serves as choreographer.

ECCC Beauties, Beaus

These students were recently crowned beauties and beaus in the annual East Central Community College pageant. Pictured are (from left) Ashton Currie of Morton, Robby Carey and Mary Lois Thomas, both of Decatur; Chris Gordon of Union, most beautiful Lindsey Posey of Philadelphia, most handsome Billy Johnson of Newton, Claudia Zynosky-Sharpling and Mark Walker, both of Decatur; and Ashley Buckman of Bay Springs.



ECCC Concert Choir to Present ‘Portrait of America’ Nov. 25

The East Central Community College Concert Choir will present their annual fall concert at 7 p.m. Monday, November 25 in the Ovid S. Vickers Fine Arts Center Auditorium. There is no charge for admission.

The special presentation, titled "Portrait of America," is a program of American choral literature, according to Len Bobo, concert choir director.

The narration was written by Tony Kinton, ECCC English instructor, and will be read by College President Dr. Phil Sutphin and Vice President for Instruction Dr. Lavinia Sparkman."

In addition to the arrative, the performance also includes a stage set designed by sophomore Sarah Cole of Union.

Assistant band director Jared Brownlee will be featured on the conga drums and the College's brass quartet will also perform.

Leesa Wilkinson serves as piano accompanist and sophomore Natalie Duncan of Lake serves as student accompanist.

Selections to be presented include folk tunes "Down to the River to Pray" arranged by Sheldon Curry and "Americana" (A Folk Song Suite) arranged by Luigi Zaninelli; "Frostiana" (Seven Country Songs) by Randall Thompson which is based on the poetry of Robert Frost, "Three Madrigals," an American tribute to Shakespeare by Emma Lou Diemer; "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor," a patriotic selection by Irvin Berlin; spirituals "Keep Your Lamps" arranged by Andre Thomas and "The Word Was God" by Rosehanye Powell; and Appalachian Folk Traditions "Zion's Walls" adapted by Aaron Copland, "Death Shall Not Destroy My Comfort" and "Saints Bound for Heaven," both arranged by Mack Wilberg; and "Joy in the Morning" by Natalie Sleeth.

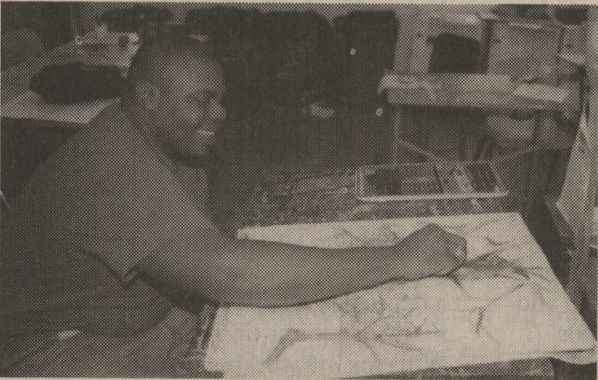
dall Thompson which is based on the poetry of Robert Frost, "Three Madrigals," an American tribute to Shakespeare by Emma Lou Diemer; "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor," a patriotic selection by Irvin Berlin; spirituals "Keep Your Lamps" arranged by Andre Thomas and "The Word Was God" by Rosehanye Powell; and Appalachian Folk Traditions "Zion's Walls" adapted by Aaron Copland, "Death Shall Not Destroy My Comfort" and "Saints Bound for Heaven," both arranged by Mack Wilberg; and "Joy in the Morning" by Natalie Sleeth.

ECCC Fall Art Show Scheduled Nov. 21

Various forms of artwork will be on display Thursday, November 21, when East Central Community College has its annual Fall Art Show.

A reception to officially showcase the exhibit begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Vickers Fine Arts Center. There is no charge for admission and refreshments will be served.

Students whose artwork will be featured include Dorothy Abel, Lee Faucette, Rufus Wilder and Amy Rawson, all of Carthage; Victoria Daniels, Christopher Stack and William Cherry, all of Philadelphia; Emily Goodin of Union; Rebecca Jones of Meridian; Kenny White of Newton; Jay Harris and Xavier Keyes, both of Raleigh;



Sophomore Kenneth White of Newton applies the final touches of his charcoal drawing in preparation for the annual ECCC Fall Art Show schedule from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursday, November 21 in the Vickers Fine Arts Center.

Jon King of Decatur; Lisa Lewis of Forest; and Lindsay Rigdon and Amanda Thompson, both of Louisville.

Students enrolled in ceramics class will also display their talents in the exhibit. Participants include Celeste Akins and Thomas Walton, both of Decatur; Donnie Atkinson, Susan Atkinson, William Cherry, Beth Yarbrough and Victoria Daniels, all of Philadelphia; Edgar Bradford and Amy Haralson, both of Forest; Angie Farve and Karen Smith, both of Conehatta; Emily Goodin, Joye James, Aaron McElfish and Jessica Crenshaw, all of Union; Joshua Hall of Morton; Jerry Melton of Lake; Raye Girard of Newton; and Kay Harvey of Linwood.

For more information contact art instructor Bruce Guraedy at 1-877-462-3222, ext. 229.

Vo-Tech programs provide options for students

By Jimmy Hall
Tom Tom Editor

East Central Community College offers a wide range of opportunities for every student. Not only does the college prepare students for further education at a senior institution, it can also prepare students to use their personal talents in fields such as cosmetology, carpentry, EMT and many others.

There are many students who do not care to pursue an education in a four-year academically related field, but would, however, prefer a two-year vocational or technical related field.

For students who believe a vocational or technical program is the right choice, there are a variety of options to choose from.

The Automotive Technology program prepares each student for service and maintenance of all types of automobiles. Through this program, one will learn to detect and repair any damage of cooling, engines, fuel, brake systems, and many other problems. Students are also shown how to repair certain parts such as transmissions and fuel systems.

The Business and Office Technology program provides business training in theory and efficient applications necessary for employment in industries, businesses, medical and professional workplaces. The curriculum consists primarily of training to contribute employable skills using modern procedures, processes, and equipment. Upon successful completion of either the Medical Office Technology or Office Systems Technology, a student is given an Associate of Applied Science degree.

The Child Development Technology program prepares each student to give proper care for infants and young children. It combines the use of art, music, language, and other creative aspects. It readies each student for jobs in day care centers, as teachers' aides in school systems, as well as many others. All students in this program must have up to date immunizations and submit to finger printing and a background check. At the completion of the two academic years of study

required for this program, the student earns the Associate of Applied Science Degree.

The Collision Repair Technology program prepares students to repair and recondition minor and major damage on automobiles. Such skills to be learned in this program include glass replacement, welding, cosmetic and structural repairs, and replacement of hardware and trim items. Upon completion of this program, a student should be ready for beginning positions as body, frame, and refinish technicians.

The Computer Technology program provides students education on the many functions that a computer is used in today's businesses. It prepares the student to perform in entry-level positions in business, government, professional, or industry areas as data entry operators, computer operators, computer programmers, microcomputer specialists, or network administrators.

The Computer Network Support Technology program is a two-year program that trains students in the fields of telecommunications, network administration and client/server systems. A job as a personal computer network administrator may be sought upon the completion of this program. Also, one receives an Associate of Applied Science degree at the end of this program.

The Drafting and Design Technology program teaches all aspects of the drafting field. It includes hands-on experience as well as academic studies.

The Electrical Technology program prepares each student to install, operate, maintain, and repair electrically energized systems such as residential, commercial, and industrial electrical wiring, and DC and AC motors, controls and electrical distribution panels.

The Electronics Technology program prepares students to assist electrical engineers in the design, development and testing of electrical circuits, devices and systems for generating and distributing electrical power.

The EMT/Paramedic Technology program is a two-year program which that began during the 2002-2003 school

year. To qualify for admission to this program students are required to be a state certified EMT-Basic and complete Anatomy and Physiology I and II with a grade of "C" or better.

The Gerontology Technology program enables the student to have a deeper understanding of the aging process and the effects it has physically and mentally. Upon completion a student should be able to find employment in jobs relating to gerontology such as adult day cares or nursing homes.

The Heating and Air Conditioning Technolgoey program equips a student for installing, maintaining and operating small or medium air conditioning, heating and refrigeration systems.

The Machine Shop Technology program enables a student to interpret blueprints, make necessary shop mathematical calculations, skillfully operate the lathe, shaper, milling machine, grinders, drills and make precision measurements.

The Carpentry and Cabinet-making program gives training in the basic skills and technical knowledge in both rough and finished carpentry and in cabinetmaking. The equipment and tools used in this program are similar to those used in the business world.

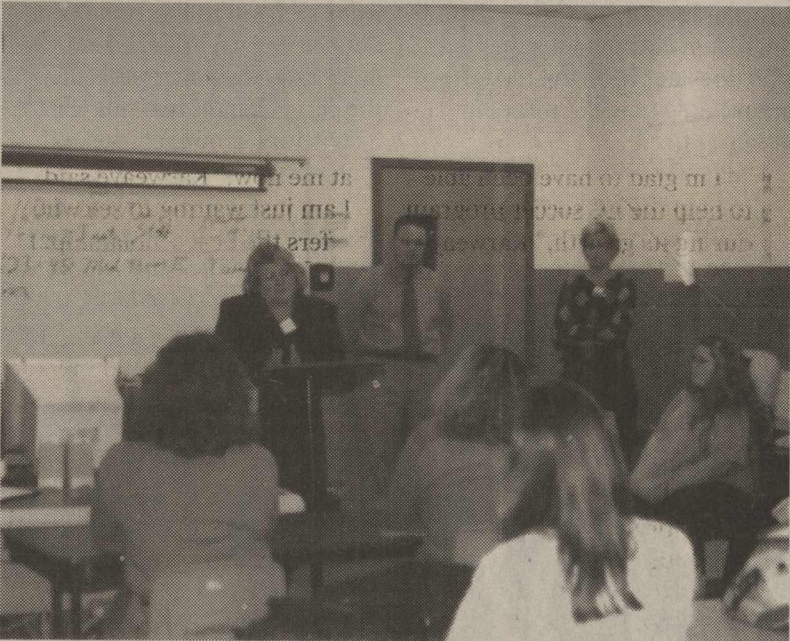
The Cosmetology program, which is approved by the State Board of Education and the Mississippi Board of Cosmetology, is a must for those who plan to become a cosmetologist. A student must be at least age 17 and have either completed high school or obtained a GED.

The Welding and Cutting program gives basic training in this area. Practice in shielded metal arc welding, gas metal arc welding, flux cored arc welding, gas tungsten arc welding, cutting processes, drawing and welding symbol interpretation and welding inspection and testing principles.

So if four years or more of college doesn't sound right for you, perhaps the East Central Community College Vocational-Technical Department can help you earn the skills you need to succeed. For more information contact John Adcock, ECCC District Dean of Vocational-Technical Education.

Rush employees speak to Medical Office Technology Class

Carol Blackwell (standing left) and Dawnell Riley (right) recently spoke to East Central students in Elizabeth Breland's Medical Office Technical classes about career opportunities available at Rush Foundation Hospital in Meridian. Both are employed in the Human Resources department at Rush. Also pictured is ECCC Work-Based Learning Coordinator Jeff Hitt who helped organize the event.



Spotlight: Drama Director Regina Rigby

By Joshua Hall
Tom Tom Reporter

As Director of East Central Community College drama productions, Regina Rigby maintains a tight schedule.

She has many responsibilities which include assigning roles to cast members, setting and meeting rehearsal times, overseeing stage setup, giving assignments to the stage and makeup crew, making sure cast members know their parts and keeping events in order.

Rigby, who is a native of Newton, first became interested in the theater when she enrolled at East Central Junior College in 1977.

After attending East Central, she joined the Hattiesburg Little Theater. Since that time, she has been involved in various productions with Newton Little Theater and Forest Community Arts.



Regina Rigby

Rigby has been directing theater for four years. Productions she has directed include Annie, Seven Brides For Seven Brothers, The Sound of Music, Annie Get Your Gun, Footloose, The Pajama Game, Crimes of The Heart, and Accommodations.

In addition, Rigby is also a teacher at Forest Middle School and is a wife and mother of two. "Theater began as an outlet for me," Rigby said, "the one way

I could express myself without risk or fear. Whether I am on stage or directing, I put my heart into it."

To those who are interested in theater, Rigby gave this advice. "Never underestimate yourself," she said. "You have more talent and courage than you think you do."

Rigby is currently directing East Central dinner theater production of William Inge's Bus Stop. Performances are scheduled November 21, 22, and 23 in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and can be purchased in the East Central Community College Communications Office in Newton Hall.

By Vickie Powe
Tom Tom Reporter

"I am so tired!" That has been the most prevalent phrase on campus the last several weeks.

First there was Homecoming and now finals. Who can blame anyone for being exhausted! But the East Central Community College cosmetology department has the answer.

Instructor Wanda Brackeen and her students offer a variety of services ranging from haircuts and perms to manicures and pedicures. During the fall semester, they accept clients on Wednesdays, Thursdays

and Fridays. During the spring semester they will also be available on Mondays.

These services not only relieve stress, they help you wallet too! Haircuts and manicures are three dollars and pedicures are four dollars. For a complete

price list, stop by the Cosmetology Department in the Vocational-Technical Annex located adjacent to the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

If you are ready to relieve some of the tension of these hectic days, drop by and

Ease stress, look beautiful for less at ECCC cosmetology department

Come Worship With Us! Baptist Student Union Activities:

Monday: Worship service at 8:31 p.m. in the BSU Center

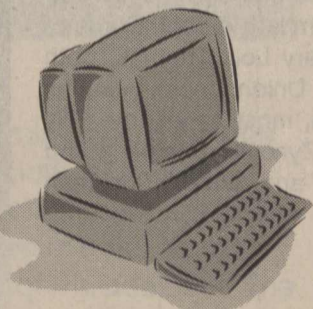
Tuesday: Girls Bible Study at 9 p.m. in the BSU Center and Guys Bible Study at 9 p.m. in the Upper Room (enter the door to the left of the Grill entrance near the Bookstore)

Wednesday: Lunch Encounter at Noon in the BSU Center

Thursday: Bible Study at 7:15 a.m. in the BSU Center

Wellness Programs Offered By The Student Health Center

**December 2
"Blood Drive"
United Blood Services
Blood Mobile in the Mall Area
8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**



The Learning Skills Center Newton Hall Room 112

Free Tutoring Services Available!

**Monday-Tuesday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**



THE TOM TOM

The Tom-Tom is the official campus newspaper of East Central Community College in Decatur, MS. It is printed three times a semester by the Office of Public Information. For more information you may contact the Public Information staff at P.O. Box 129, Decatur, MS 39327, Ph. 635-2111, ext. 242, or toll free 1-877-462-3222, ext. 242.

Accreditation

East Central Community College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone Number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate Degree.

Non-Discrimination

East Central Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicap. The college is in compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Right to Know Campus Security Act of 1990.

Staff members include editor Jimmy Hall, assistant editor Drew Kenna, and Joshua Hall, Amy Haralson, Ardria Harris, Vicki Powe, Jenna Talbert, Shaletha Wade and Shuawaski Young. Sponsors are Bubby Johnston and Maria McLeod.

SPORTS

ECCC Men’s Team Places Fourth At Warrior Showdown

A fourth-place finish capped a successful weekend of competition for the East Central Community College’s men’s rodeo team at the annual Warrior Showdown Rodeo held October 31-November 1 at the Neshoba County Coliseum in Philadelphia.

Daniel Moore led the Warriors by placing among the top finishers in several areas of competition. The Nanih Waiya High School product tied for fourth in team roping with teammate Jacob Breland of Philadelphia, finished seventh in saddle bronc riding and placed third in the men’s all-around competition with 70 points. Drew Walters of Sylvia Bay Academy also won honors by placing third in bull riding.

The University of Tennessee-Martin captured the men’s competition with 390 points. Other top finishers included the University of West Alabama (375), Missouri Valley College (205), ECCC (180), Troy State University (105), Southern Arkan-

sas University (85), Faulkner State Community College (80), Michigan State University (60), Southwest Missouri State University (55) and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

Jamie Andrews of Florence led the ECCC women by placing third in breakaway roping.

Missouri Valley College won the women’s competition with 225 points. Other top finishers were Northwest Mississippi Community College (115), Troy State University (85), Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (80), Murray State University (65), Southwest Missouri State University (50), University of Tennessee-Martin (40) and Mississippi State University (30).

Following its successful finish in the Warrior Showdown, the East Central men’s team is tied for fifth with Southern Arkansas University in the Ozark Region following competition in four rodeos. Both teams have accumulated 335 points, compared to first-place University of West Alabama, which has 1,465

points. The Lady Warriors are in ninth place with 60 points. The women’s group is led by Missouri Valley College with 940 points.

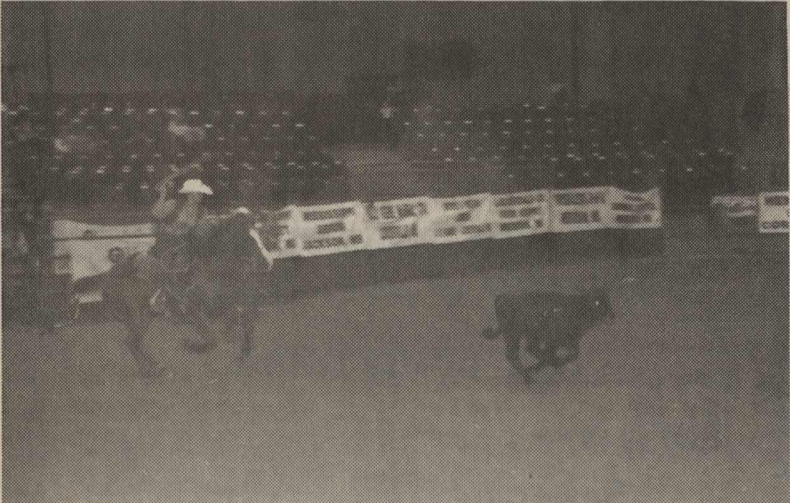
ECCC team members who are ranked in region competition as of November 4 include Daniel Moore of Nanih Waiya, ninth, saddle bronc riding and third, team roping heeler; Chance Smart of Vardaman, fourth, and Drew Walters of Sylvia Bay Academy, ninth, bull riding; Billy Mack Kinard of West Lauderdale, fifth, and Jacob Breland of Philadelphia, fifteenth, team roping header; Jamie Andrews of Florence, ninth, breakaway roping and thirteenth, goat tying; and Lacey Sanborn of Noxapater, tenth, breakaway roping.

Larry Dial serves as coach of the ECCC Rodeo Team, which concludes 2002 competition at Murray State in Kentucky November 21-23. Action resumes at Mississippi State University February 20-23, 2003.



ECCC Rodeo Team

Members of the East Central Community College rodeo team include (kneeling from left) Jamie Andrews of Florence, Heather Cheesman of Jackson, Ashley Blakely of Goldvein, Virginia, and Lindsey Shaw of Perkinston; (second row, from left) D.J. Nowell of Philadelphia, Joseph Lambert of Monticello, Billy Mac Kinard of Meridian, Drew Walters of Montrose, Isaac Goforth and Matthew Burks, both of Philadelphia, and coach Larry Dial of Livingston, Alabama; and (top row, from left) Lacey Sanborn of Noxapater, Daniel Moore of Louisville, Kasidi Griffin of Newton, Chance Smart of Vardaman, Natalie Tillman of Union and Jacob Breland of Philadelphia. Not pictured is Adria Creemen of Noxapater.



Natalie Tillman of Union participates in the calf-roping event during the annual Warrior Showdown Rodeo held in the Philadelphia-Neshoba County Coliseum in October. Teams from all over the Southeast attended this year’s event.

EC’s Karweaye Top Scorer in South Div. Juco Soccer

Soccer standout Seltue Karweaye of East Central Community College led the South Division in scoring with 17 goals, according to MACJC statistics released followed the 2002 campaign.

Karweaye, a sophomore forward from Liberia, West Africa, also had six assists and played a key role in leading the Soccer Warriors to their best season in the program’s four-year existence. East Central posted a

9-6-3 overall mark and finished third in division action with a 5-3-2 record.

Freshman midfielder John Theobald was also among the scoring leaders. Theobald, a product of St. Aloysius High School in Vicksburg, tied for fourth in scoring with eight goals and two assists.

The Soccer Warriors are led by head coach Kenneth Thompson and assistant Roy Pete.

Football Warriors Among State’s Statistical Leaders

He only appeared in five games but East Central Community College running back Ramon Williams still managed to lead the state in rushing yardage per contest for the 2002 campaign. Freshman Titus Ryan of Tuscaloosa (Ala.) County, who was moved from wide receiver to running back after Williams was injured in the season-opener, finished second even though he appeared in only seven games at the running back position.

Williams, a sophomore from Daphne, Ala., gained 528 yards on 90 carries - a 105.6-yard average per game- and scored five touchdowns. He was injured in the season-opening loss to Holmes but returned to the lineup to help EC defeat Jones County and Hinds. Williams had his best outing against Northwest, as the former Brookwood (Ala.) High School standout rushed 192 yards on 20 carries and scored four touchdowns in the Warriors’ 34-33 overtime loss to the host Rangers on October 26. In recognition of his stellar performance against Northwest, Williams was named the state’s offensive player of the week in MACJC/Region 23 competition. He also finished fourth in individual scoring, averaging six points for each

Seltue Karweaye: Always a Warrior

East Central Community College’s Seltue Karweaye, is a native of Liberia, West Africa and has always dreamed of playing soccer in the professional leagues.

If his two seasons on the College soccer team are any indication, that dream just might come true. The sophomore forward, led the South Division in scoring with 17 goals. He also had six assists and played a key role in leading the Soccer Warriors to their best season (9-6-3) in the program’s four-year history.

So how did a guy from West Africa find his way to East Central Community College in rural Mississippi?

“I found the College on the Internet,” Karweaye said. “I found out they had a soccer team and I contacted Coach (Kenneth Thompson).”

Karweaye said he was grateful that Thompson was able to see him practice and offered him a scholarship.

“I came here mainly to go to school,” Karweaye said. “But I was very fortunate that Coach let me practice with the team and after seeing me play offered me a scholarship.”

Karweaye said everyone at the College and the people in the community have been very nice to him.

“I’m happy at EC,” Karweaye said. “The population is small. The people are friendly. The faculty is second to none. People in Decatur have been very receptive. I think it’s a wonderful place to be.”

Not only has Karweaye enjoyed the people he has met during his two years in Decatur, he has also had a wonderful time playing soccer.

“I’m glad to have been able to help the EC soccer program during its growth,” Karweaye said. “I have been able to play with guys who are very serious about East Central soccer. The coaches are some of the best I have ever worked under. Coach Thompson and Coach (Roy) Pete always push us to go beyond the limit and to strive for more.

“I think that’s helped the team a lot. We did a good job, the coach, the team and myself. We are setting a standard for EC soccer and I hope others will continue where we left off. We did not lose a match on our home field this season and I hope East Central soccer continues to prosper.”

Karweaye was also thankful

for the fans.

“I want to thank everybody that came out to watch us play,” Karweaye said. “Without them we couldn’t do anything. They really support us.”

He added, “Our biggest crowd was during the final game with South Division champion Gulf Coast. It was really a great game. And everyone was excited. Although we didn’t win, we did tie and kept our home record of no losses in 2002.”

In every athlete’s life, there are games they will never forget. Karweaye has three that stand out.

“When we played Jones last season,” said Karweaye, “the game went into overtime and everyone thought we were losing. Then I scored the winning goal.

“The second game was against Meridian. Everyone knows they were national champions. They have all these credentials and everyone thinks they are untouchable.

“When we started playing, they scored twice and everyone thought it was over. But it wasn’t. EC fought back hard and I was able to score two goals and we tied them in Meridian.

“When they came here, we won 2-1. Everybody played hard and I scored twice in that game. I will always remember it. To beat Meridian was a great feeling because they are really good. But they are not better than East Central.”

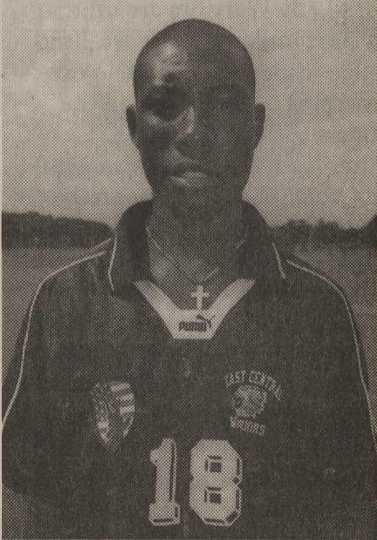
Now that Karweaye has completed two seasons at East Central, he hopes to complete his associate’s degree and move on to the next level.

“I have four schools looking at me now,” Karweaye said. I am just waiting to see who offers the best scholarship. I am looking forward to playing again.”

It is also important to Karweaye to be able to complete his education in nursing.

“I have always dreamed of playing professionally and I hope I can play harder, work harder and step up my game and maybe be drafted by a professional league,” Karweaye said. “However, if I step on the field and get injured or something, I want to have an academic career to rely on for the future.”

Wherever Karweaye goes next, he says it will be difficult to leave friends he has made in Decatur.



Seltue Karweaye

“East Central is where it all started for me. It will be difficult to leave my friends in the community and my Christian family at Clarke-Venable Baptist Church,” Karweaye said. “I have adopted Decatur as my second home and the people have been so nice to me.”

Although Karweaye says he loves America, he also said he eventually plans to return to Africa.

“I want to be able to go back to Africa to help people,” said Karweaye. “I think I have been so blessed to receive a college education and even if I make it professionally in soccer, I want to become a nurse so that I can give a helping hand to other people.”

Karweaye has not only done well on the soccer field, but has also excelled in his classes at East Central. He has been speaking English since the sixth grade and said as long as people speak “good” English to him he can understand them. However street talk or “slang words” sometimes make it more difficult.

Karweaye expressed his appreciation to all the people at East Central who have helped him during his two years here.

“I want to thank Coach Thompson and Coach Pete for the opportunity and for the trust they put in me,” Karweaye said. “I am also thankful to my teammates and the student body who accepted me. The faculty helped me out a lot. I would like to thank Ms. (Donna) Luke in the admissions office, the librarians, and Dr. Sutphin and Dr. Sparkman. I am also grateful to my church family and people in the town of Decatur.”

He added, “I am a Warrior and I always will be a Warrior!”

ATTN: STUDENTS

\$15.00 To Start

Flexible Full-Time & Part-Time Hours

Interview in Jackson, MS to work in Meridian

(601) 989-9285

www.workforstudents.com

2003 Rodeo Schedule		
February 20-22	Mississippi State University	Starkville, MS
March 6-8	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College	Tifton, GA
March 27-29	Arkansas State University	Jonesboro, AR
April 3-5	Southwest Missouri State University	Springfield, MO
April 10-12	University of Tennessee at Martin	Martin, TN

Season action underway for Lady Warriors, Warriors

East Central Community College's Lady Warriors are off to a 3-2 start under head coach Brad Hodge while Billy Smith's Warriors sport a 2-3 record on the young season.

After losing their first two contests, the EC women captured their third-straight contest by clipping Holmes Community College 69-67 November 11 on the Goodman campus.

Lenore Gray, a freshman from Newton, scored the game-winning basket in the nondivision matchup and led EC with 23 points. Also scoring were Rita Birden of Monroe, La., 20; E'bone'e Leverette of Forest, 13; Kimyatta Viverette of Lake, five; Tamekia Foley of Newton County, three; Melinda Ben of Choctaw Central and Elyse Willis of Neshoba Central, two each; and Monique Overstreet of South Leake, one.

Holmes held a 33-32 advantage at halftime.

The Warriors came up short against the Holmes men, falling 92-84. Corey Hornsby, a product of Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge, La., led EC with 31 points. Other point makers were Demario Qualls of Newton, 24; Donzell Crenshaw of Ridgeway High School in Memphis, Tenn., 10; Dewayne Hughes of Sebastopol, six; Desmond Jones of Neshoba Central, five; and Brandon Mason of North Dale High School in Baton Rouge, La., and Jamaal Martin

of Northeast Lauderdale, four each.

The Bulldogs led 41-40 at the break.

Results of previous games are as follows :

ECCC WOMEN 63, EMCC 54. Scorers for the Lady Warriors were Lenore Gray of Newton, 16; Kimyatta Viverete of Lake, nine; Britney Burks of Scott Central and Tamekia Foley of Newton County, eight each; Miranda Rosar of Neshoba Central and Rita Birden of St. Fredrick High School in Monroe, La., six each; and Elyse Willis of Neshoba Central, Monique Overstreet of South Leake, Hope Murray of West Jones, Melinda Ben of Choctaw Central and Ebone'e Leverette of Forest, two each. EC led 27-26 at halftime.

ECCC MEN 70, EMCC 58. Warrior point makers were Donzel Crenshaw of Ridgeway High School in Memphis, Tenn., 13; Desmond Jones of Neshoba Central, nine; Reggie Carter of University Christian, eight; Jamaal Martin of Northeast Lauderdale, seven; Al Willis of Newton County and Demario Qualls of Newton, six each; Dewayne Hughes of Sebastopol and Colt Aldison of North Delta Academy, five each; Brandon Mason of North Dale High School in Baton Rouge, La., four; Corey Hornsby of Istrouma High School, also in Baton Rouge, and Will Florence of North Delta Academy, three

each; and Kevin Bobbitt of Lake, one. EC held a 36-29 advantage at the break.

ECCC WOMEN 82, SHELTON STATE 80 (OT). Freshman Rita Birden of St. Fredrick High School in Monroe, La., sank a pair of free throws with 7.8 seconds remaining in overtime and the Lady Warriors held on for their first season victory. Scorers were Lenore Gray of Newton, 18; Kimyatta Viverette of Lake and Ebone'e Leverette of Forest, 15 each; Birden, a product of St. Fredrick High School in Monroe, La., 13; Britney Burks of Scott Central, nine; Tamekia Foley of Newton County, eight; and Monique Overstreet of South Leake, four. The game was tied 69-69 at the end of regulation. EC led 35-31 at intermission.

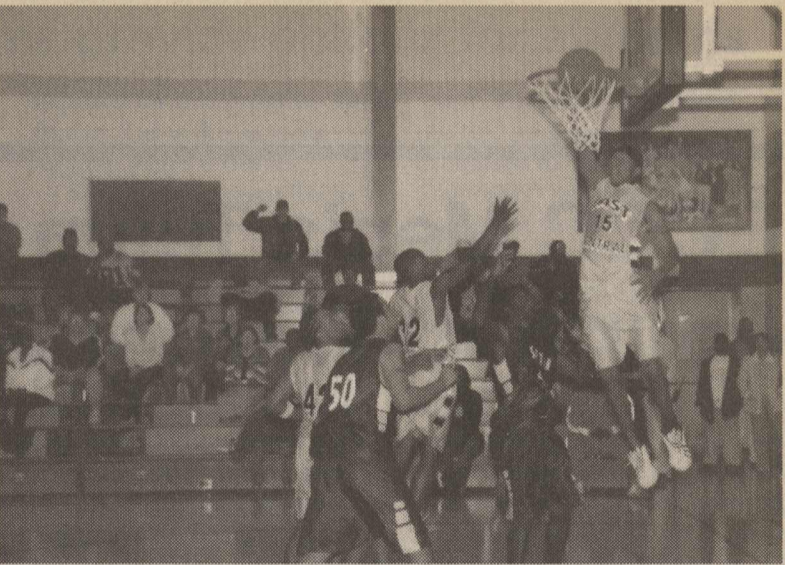
SHELTON STATE MEN 89, EC 84. Warrior scorers were Corey Hornsby of Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge, La., 38; Demario Qualls of Newton, 18; Jamaal Martin of Northeast Lauderdale, 10; Desmond Jones of Neshoba Central, seven; Donzel Crenshaw of Ridgeway High School in Memphis, Tenn., six; and Brandon Mason of North Dale High School in Baton Rouge, five. EC trailed 49-34 at halftime.

ITAWAMBA WOMEN 53, ECCC 49. Lady Warrior scorers were Lenore Gray of Newton, 16; Rita Birden of St. Fredrick High School in Monroe, La.,

nine; Tamekia Foley of Newton County, seven; Kimyatta Viverette of Lake and Ebone'e Leverette of Forest, six each; Melinda Ben of Choctaw Central and Britney Burks of Scott Central, two each; and Monique Overstreet of South Leake, one. EC led 31-30 at the break.

ITAWAMBA MEN 71, EC 61. Warrior point makers were Corey Hornsby of Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge, La., 20; Demario Qualls of Newton and Desmond Jones of Neshoba Central, 11 each; Reggie Carter of University Christian and Donzell Crenshaw of Ridgeway High School in Memphis, Tenn., four each; Jamaal Martin and Stephen Dyess, both of Northeast Lauderdale, and Brandon Mason of North Dale High School in Baton Rouge, three each; and Kevin Bobbitt of Lake, two. The host Indians led 34-23 at halftime.

MISSISSIPPI DELTA WOMEN 82, ECCC 79. Lady Warrior scorers were Lenore Gray of Newton, 14; Ebone'e Leverette of Forest and Rita Birden of St. Fredrick High School in Monroe, La., 13 each; Kimyatta Viverette of Lake, 11; Tamekia Foley of Newton County, nine; Monique Overstreet of South Leake and Britney Burks of Scot Central, seven each; Patsy McKee of Forest, three; and Melinda Ben of Choctaw Central, two. EC led 45-42



East Central's Corey Hornsby makes two of his 38 points in the Warriors' 89-84 loss to Shelton State Community College.



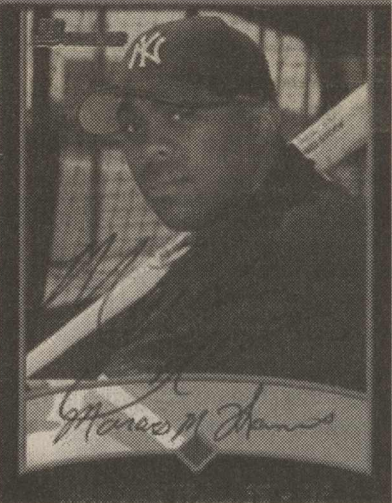
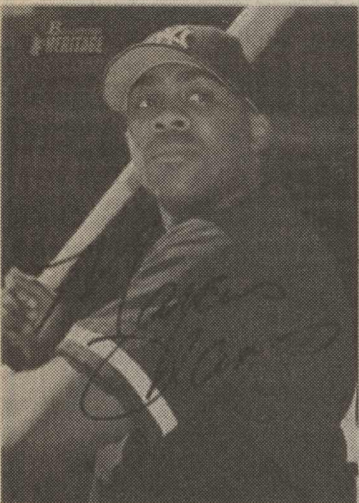
Lady Warrior Kimyatta Viverette makes her way past a Shelton State defender during East Central's 82-80 overtime victory.

at halftime.

ECCC MEN 85, DELTA 82 (OT). Corey Hornsby of Istrouma High School in Baton Rouge, La., led the Warriors with 40 points. Also scoring were Demario Qualls of Newton, 14; Brandon Mason of North Dale High School in Baton Rouge, 12; Jamaal Martin of

Northeast Lauderdale, eight; Donzell Crenshaw of Ridgeway High in Memphis, Tenn., five; Reggie Carter of University Christian, four; Kevin Bobbitt of Lake, three; and Will Florence of North Delta Academy, two. The Warriors led 35-31 at halftime.

Yankees' Marcus Thames credits East Central C.C. influences with helping him make it to the big leagues



When the late East Central Community College baseball coach Jamie Clark signed Marcus Thames to play with the Diamond Warriors in the fall of 1995, he could have never known the impact he would have on the young man's life.

After playing his freshman year at East Central, Thames was drafted by the New York Yankees in the 30th round in 1996 but he chose to complete his sophomore season at the College before heading to the "Big Apple."

Several years in the Yankees training camps and playing in Double A and Triple A finally paid off for Thames when he got "called up" to New York last

season on a temporary assignment.

Thames said, "On Sunday night, they called me in the office and said 'You're going to New York in the morning'. I said quit playing with me. I thought they were joking. When I realized it was really happening, I ran out and called my mom. I had finally made it!"

Thames made history when he became only the second New York Yankee in history to hit a home run in his major league debut when he blasted a dinger off Arizona Diamondback ace Randy Johnson.

Thames credits his former East Central coach with helping him succeed.

"During my years in Double A, Coach (Clark) kept telling me I would make it," Thames said. "Before he died, I talked to him about twice a month until he just couldn't talk anymore. 'Some of the guys (East Central teammates) called me when he passed. I was in a game, but one of them had left a message to call regarding Coach Clark.'"

Thames said he has Clark's name and some advice the late coach gave him written in each of his game caps.

Clark's advice to Thames was "Do something day-in and day-out to help my team win, and I will make it to the big leagues."

"He brought me to East Central as a pitcher," Thames said. "I kept telling him I wanted to play in the field and hit. He kept insisting that I pitch, but one day he decided to give me a chance in the outfield. That's what I've been playing ever since."

"I always told him when I made it to the majors, I would get him tickets to the games," Thames said. "Now he's not here."

Thames said everyone at East Central was so nice to him and helped him a lot. He comes by as often as possible to visit with them and is always sure to stop

by the office of Lucille Wood, another instructor he gives praise to.

"Miss Wood always helped me out," said Thames. "Coach (Clark) always made sure we went to class and Miss Wood's was one I never missed!"

During the off season, Thames spends most of his time working out and lifting weights in his hometown of Louisville.

Although he got sent back to Triple A after his infamous homerun debut, he is still on the 40-man roster for the Yankees and will go back to spring training in Tampa, Florida in January.

"I've met a lot of great people since I've been with the Yankees," Thames said. "I want to play with them (Yankees) forever. It's hard to get to that point though. But if I go and play hard they will have to give me a chance."

So what's it like to play in the big league?

"It's tough," Thames said. "It's a job like everything else. You have to work hard and be able to take criticism."

Thames added, "Everybody wants to play in New York. It's amazing that I'm there. When I first went I thought, 'What am I doing here?'"

East Central Students and Faculty Participate in Public Lands Day

By Drew Kenna
Tom Tom Asst. Editor

Many students and faculty participated in Public lands day. Public lands day was held at Okatibee Lake on Saturday, September 28. This day is set aside to promote awareness in the community to take care of our public lands so that we all have a place to enjoy.

The day started by dividing everyone into groups. Some groups planted green plots for animals such as deer and turkeys. Other groups planted trees and collected garbage. Another big project was helping the bluebirds.

The purpose of planting wheat grass seeds was to encourage wild life to those currently unused areas of the park. There were several objectives to helping the bluebirds. One group cleaned out preexisting

houses for the next season's bluebirds. This group also made repairs on other bluebird houses. Other groups built new bluebird houses and mounted the new bluebird homes.

At the end of the day, a volunteer was provided for the fun-unteers and a raffle was held. There were many nice door prizes were given away by various companies. Every child and most of the adults won a prize of some sort. Amanda McDonald won a free meal to McAlister's. This is what she said about the day. "We had lots of fun planting trees and picking up trash on the beach. I would have had tons of fun even if I hadn't won anything".

The National Public Lands Day was a huge success thanks to everyone who participated. Tanya Millender was reported as saying "It was a nice activity and I wish that they would have another one".



Marcus Thames recently visited the ECCC campus and is shown with one of his former instructors Lucille Wood.

But Thames is not alone in that feeling.

"Even Jason Giambi said he was overwhelmed," Thames said. "He told me I would feel that way too. There is just so much tradition when it comes to Yankees baseball."

What advice would Thames give to the baseball players at East Central?

"Work hard," Thames said. "Listen to your coaches. You won't like everything they tell you. But work hard and something good will happen."

It's obvious that Thames has followed his own advice and that of his late coach.

2002-2003 East Central Community College Basketball Schedule			
Date	Opponent	Location	Time
NOVEMBER			
1 (Friday)	Mississippi Delta	Moorhead	5 p.m.
4 (Monday)	Itawamba	Fulton	5:30 p.m.
7 (Thursday)	Shelton State (Alabama)	Decatur	6 p.m.
9 (Saturday)	East Mississippi	Decatur	1 p.m.
11 (Monday)	Holmes	Goodman	5:30 p.m.
18 (Monday)	Shelton State (Alabama)	Tuscaloosa	6 p.m.
21 (Thursday)	East Mississippi	Scoba	6 p.m.
25 (Monday)	Itawamba (EC Tourney)	Decatur	6 p.m.
26 (Tuesday)	Holmes (EC Tourney)	Decatur	6 p.m.
December			
5 (Thursday)	Pearl River	Decatur	6 p.m.
JANUARY			
7 (Tuesday)	Mississippi Delta	Decatur	6 p.m.
9 (Thursday)	Hinds	Utica	6 p.m.
13 (Monday)	Southwest	Decatur	6 p.m.
16 (Thursday)	Meridian	Meridian	6 p.m.
20 (Monday)	Co-Lin	Wesson	6 p.m.
23 (Thursday)	Jones	Decatur	6 p.m.
27 (Monday)	Gulf Coast	Decatur	6 p.m.
30 (Thursday)	Pearl River	Poplarville	6 p.m.
FEBRUARY			
3 (Monday)	Hinds	Decatur	6 p.m.
6 (Thursday)	Southwest	Summit	6 p.m.
10 (Monday)	Meridian	Decatur	6 p.m.
13 (Thursday)	Co-Lin	Decatur	6 p.m.
17 (Monday)	Jones	Ellisville	6 p.m.
20 (Thursday)	Gulf Coast	Perkinston	6 p.m.
24-27 (Monday-Thursday)	State Tournament	TBA	TBA
MARCH			
3-6 (Monday-Thursday)	Region Tournament	Mississippi College	TBA

Warrior Wall O' Sound Marching Band

Christmas Parade Schedule

Monday, December 2-Morton
Tuesday, December 3-Sebastopol
Friday, December 6-Forest & Decatur
Saturday, December 7- Newton

Quick Communication

Meridian, MS • 483-6807

State-Wide Unlimited Paging \$9.95 Per Month

Pagers Starting at \$39.95
(Includes Pager, Activation and First Month)

We Also Offer Voice Mail & Alpha-Numeric with E-Mail Address

Nation-Wide • Regional

Let Us Help You Keep In Touch!

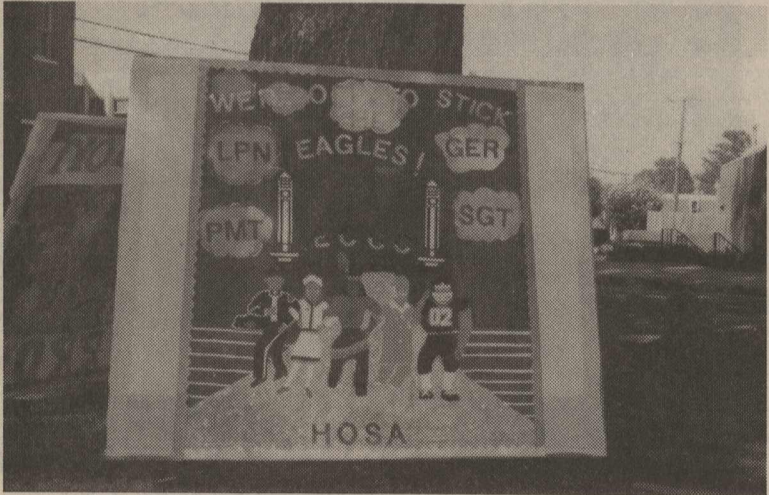
Available at:

D&D Pawn
Decatur, MS
635-4199

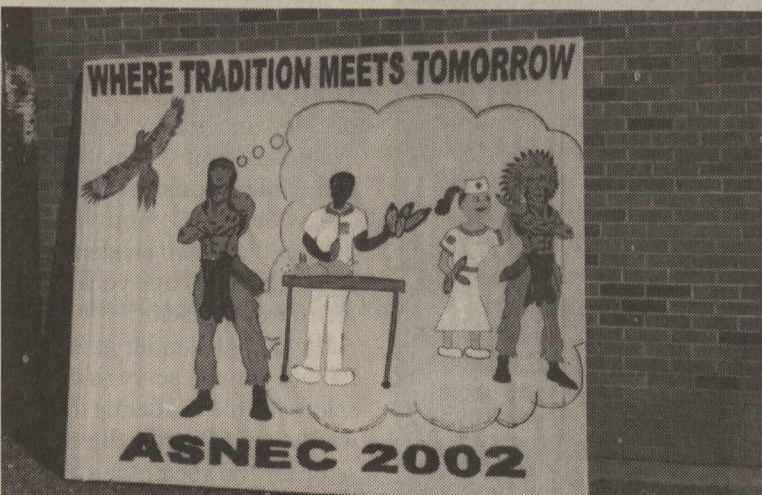
Forest Wireless
Forest, MS
460-0680

H&H Pawn
Union, MS
774-5126

Win Homecoming Sign Competition



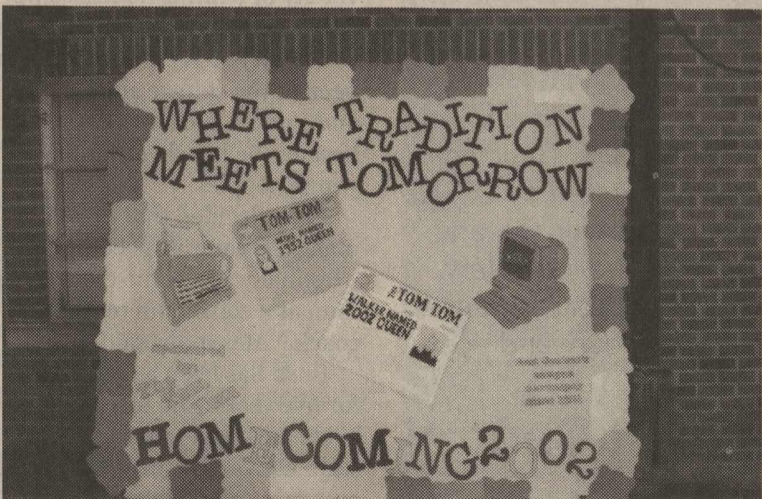
Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) took first place honors in the annual Sign Contest held during Homecoming activities.



ASNEC (Association of Student Nurses at East Central) received a second place award for their Homecoming sign.



The East Central Environmental Club (ECEC) were third place winners during the Homecoming Sign competition.



Receiving fourth place honors during the annual Homecoming Sign Contest was The Tom Tom staff.

Music is a family tradition for the Carsons

By Shuwaski Young
Tom Tom Reporter

Under the direction of Thomas W. Carson, now in his twenty-first year as Director of Bands at East Central Community College, the band department has become well-known throughout the state and nation.

“I guess knowing a lot of different varieties of music has always been a habit of mine,” said Carson. “Being the son of a government worker, I got to see a lot of the world at a young age. Living in Europe for most of my teenage years, I graduated high school in Italy.”

After Carson graduate from high school, his father decided to put down the suitcases, retire and move back home to Mississippi.

“Fresh out of high school



Tom Carson practicing his guitar, one of the many instruments the band director plays.

with long hair, I had no intention whatsoever of attending college,” said Carson. “I had dreams of becoming a rock-n-roll star! However, that well-thought-out plan came to a halt when I finally decided to listen to my father and attend

East Central Junior College and major in music.”

After completed his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Delta State University, Carson soon returned to his alma mater to work.

The Carson name is well

known on campus. In addition to Tom Carson, his wife, Brenda, serves as Director of Financial Aid and two of their children, Chris and Jennifer, are students at the College. Youngest son Jeremy, who is in elementary school, can also be seen at most campus events.

Chris and Jennifer, who grew up on the EC campus with their Mom and Dad, are both music majors and members of the Collegians, EC’s rock-n-roll band also directed by Carson.

Carson said music was something both Chris and Jennifer always wanted to do and Jeremy already has intentions to follow in their footsteps.

In addition to directing bands at East Central, Carson plays in a jazz band, GTO Soul Revue, in Meridian.

“Music is just part of my life,” said Carson.

Barrier’s Song Makes Singing News Top 80

English instructor Leonard Barrier, who is also an accomplished musician, will have his song “I’ll Still Be Loving You” listed at number 78 on the Singing News Top 80 Chart during December.

Barrier began writing when he was only 12 years old and has penned over 500 songs. Many of them have been recorded.

“Some local groups have recorded a few,” said Barrier. “‘Singing and Rejoicing’ was recorded by the Crabb family. The Dunaways have recorded ‘I’ll Still Be Loving You’ and three additional songs on their new album. They ear-

lier recorded ‘He Kissed My Heartache,’ which won ‘Fan Pick of the Week’ at www.SouthernGospelNews.com the first week in November, in part, thanks to colleagues and students who voted for it.”

How does one begin song-writing?

“I started when I was sitting in study hall with nothing else to do,” said Barrier. “I get ideas from sermons, books, misunderstood statements, a phrase on the radio. Sometimes everything is a song. More often than not, nothing is a song.”

Forestry Group Honors EC Student

The Scott County Forestry Association recently presented Scott Breedlove (third from left) of Sebastopol with a \$500 check to continue his education at East Central Community College in Decatur. Breedlove, a sophomore majoring in agriculture, is shown receiving the award from Parkes Marler of Harpersville, Association president. Also pictured are Anita Webb of Forest, county director, Scott County Extension Service, and Trey DeLoach of Raymond, extension forestry associate with the Mississippi State University Extension Service. The presentation was made at the Association’s annual fall meeting held at Penn’s Santa Fe Steakhouse and Grill in Forest.

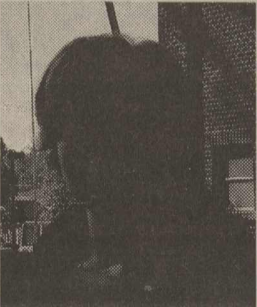


ECCC Club Raises Funds for March of Dimes

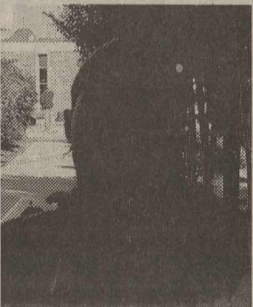
The Phi Beta Lambda Chapter at East Central Community College in Decatur recently completed its annual community service project, “Pick-A-Pumpkin,” to benefit the March of Dimes organization. Paper pumpkins were sold for \$1 each by members of the business club and were displayed on windows in Mabry Memorial Cafeteria. Efforts this year resulted in \$382.50 collected for the Mississippi chapter of the charitable organization. Ann Bullcock, left, business technology instructor, is faculty advisor for the fundraising event and freshman Linda Moody of Walnut Grove, whose major is office systems technology, was project chairman. The Phi Beta Lambda chapter is often recognized at state convention for its contribution to the March of Dimes project. ECCC’s Theta Chi Chapter will mark its initial participation in the Community Service Project competition at State Contest scheduled in Tupelo February 26-28.

What are you thankful for this holiday season?

By Jenna Talbert
Tom Tom Reporter
Photos by Vickie Powe



“My husband. He’s just the perfect man.”
Casey Young
Little Rock



“My family.”
Reggie Cistrunk
Louisville



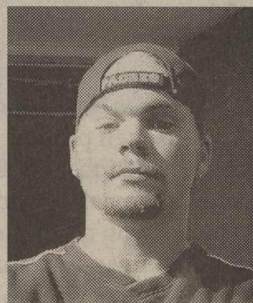
“Good health.”
Lisa Flake
Philadelphia



“Everything.”
Shayla Vaughn
Philadelphia



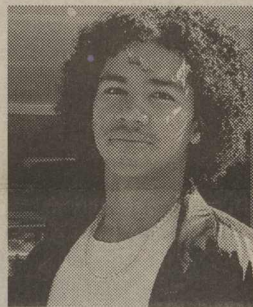
“I’m thankful that I’m getting married next month.”
Rick Lachney
Hickory



“God. His blessings. The fact that our country isn’t at war. And beautiful women!”
John Keith Jones
Forest



“My family.”
Shariba Wash
Forest

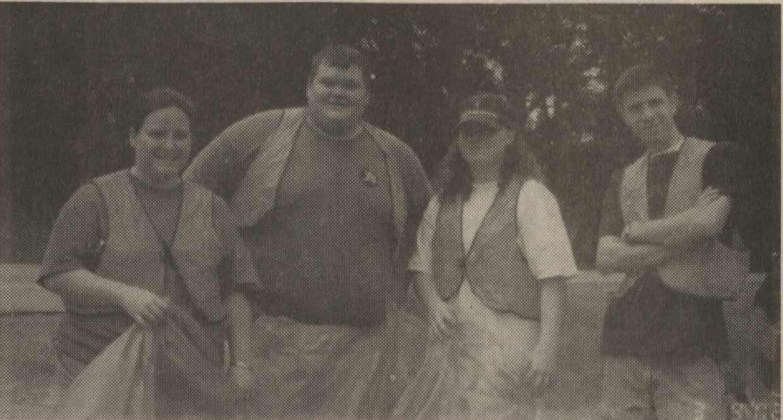


“I’m thankful I can go to class.”
Al Willis
Hickory



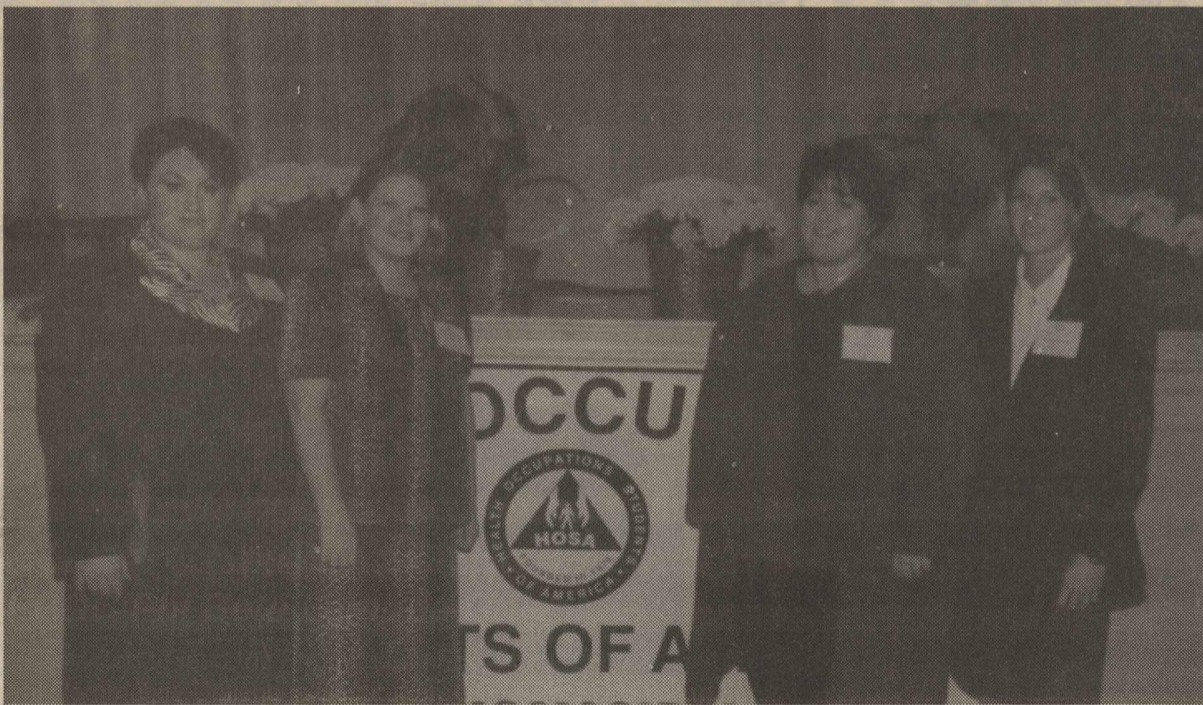
Theta Xi Hosts Nationwide Event

Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa recently hosted a satellite seminar at the Educational Television Network in Jackson. The production was broadcast to various community colleges throughout the United States and featured Dr. Linda Hancock who initiated the Virginia College Co-Op for Tobacco Use Reduction. Dr. Hancock encouraged participants to initiate alcohol and tobacco resistance campaigns in their community colleges. This was the second in a series, which focused on “How Lifestyle Choices Determine Human Health.” Those attending included (front row, from left) Jimmy Hall of Leake Academy, April McAdory of Neshoba Central, Brandy Johnson of Philadelphia, Ashley Ogletree of Sebastopol, Vickie Powe of Leake Academy, April Jones of Scott Central, Christen Herrington of Leake Academy and Lance Hall of Forest; and (back row, from left) Deborah Lang of South Leake, Kristen Swindle of Louisville and Belinda Winstead of Union.



Theta Xi Cleans Up!

Members of Theta Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society of the two-year college, recently worked along Highway 15 between Decatur and Newton picking up trash. Theta Xi Chapter adopted the mile-long stretch of highway several years ago through the Mississippi Adopt-A-Highway program. Pictured are (left to right) April McAdory of Neshoba Central, Chuck Wood of Louisville, April Jones of Scott Central and Lance Hall of Forest. Christy Ferguson and Brent Gregory serve as sponsors.



ECCC Students Selected State HOSA Leaders

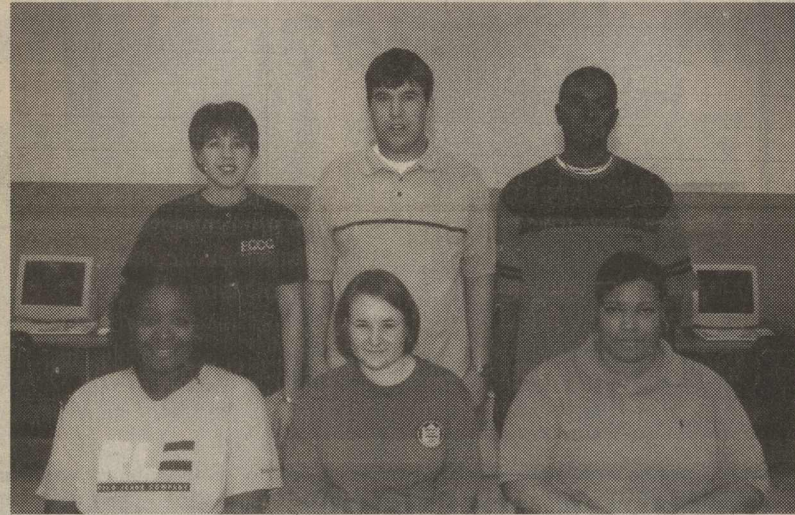
These students enrolled in various health-related programs at East Central Community College were selected to serve as Central District officer of the Mississippi HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) organization for 2002-03. The election was held at the annual State HOSA Fall Leadership Conference hosted by ECCC. From left are licensed practical nursing majors Sheila Baysinger, vice president, and Tara Long, historian/reporter, both of Philadelphia, and Rebekah Alawine, secretary/treasurer, of Morton; and surgical technology major, Miranda Perkins, Central District representative, of Eupora. More than 800 students representing secondary and post-secondary HOSA chapters attended the one-day meeting.

Buy a Christmas basket and help East Central PBL Club Raise Funds for March of Dimes

What do you know about American Enterprise? Students in Christy Ferguson's Excel class learned the basics of American Enterprise through presentations made by members of Phi Beta Lambda. Temeka Drummond, chairperson of Phi Beta Lambda's American Enterprise Project, led the sessions. Ferguson explained how the project works. "The Excel students set up their own business to help them

better understand the concept of American Enterprise," Ferguson said. "The class decided to make Christmas baskets for the holidays and named their business Baskets2Go. They were involved in every aspect of running a business including marketing, selling and production." Baskets are \$5 each and two options are available. Basket 1 contains candles, a Christmas frame, an ornament and lotion. Basket 2 contains soft drinks,

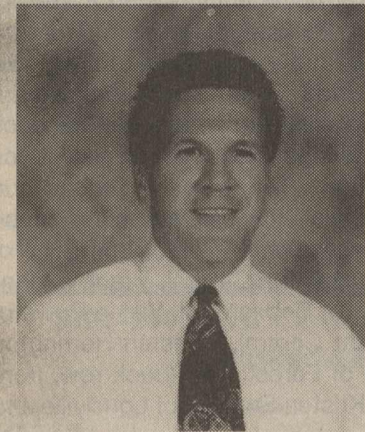
cookies, candy, chips and nabs. Profits from the baskets sold will be donated to the March of Dimes. Anyone wishing to order a basket should contact a Phi Beta Lambda member by Wednesday, December 4. All orders must be picked up by Friday, December 6. For more information contact Christy Ferguson at 635-2111, ext. 292.



ECCC Phi Beta Lambda Officers

Selected to lead the Phi Beta Lambda organization at East Central Community College in Decatur are the above business majors who include (seated from left) Shalonda Buckley, president, of Philadelphia; Jessica Brock, vice president, of Edinburg; and Brandy Johnson, secretary, of Philadelphia, and (standing from left) Ashley Ogletree, reporter, of Sebastopol; Chris Clark, treasurer, of Louisville; and Michael Townsend, parliamentarian, of Lena.

EC's Vance Selected for Regional Honor



Mickey Vance

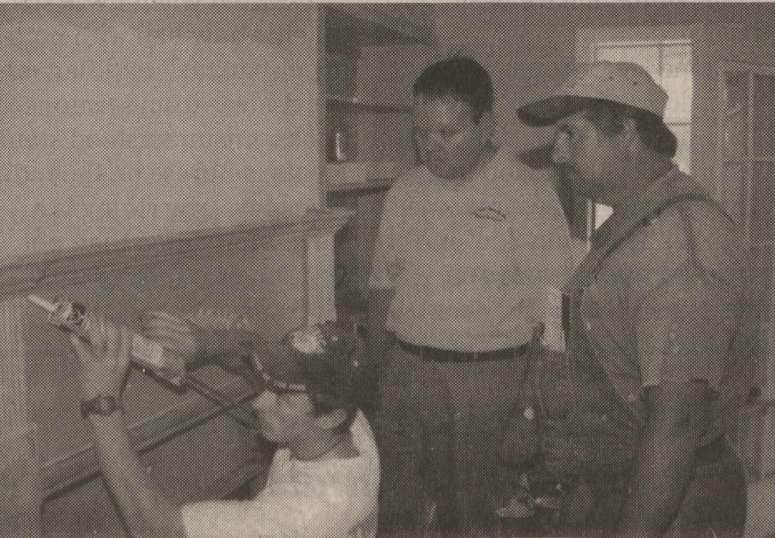
Mickey Vance, vice president for business operations at East Central Community College in Decatur, was recently named Outstanding Chief Business Officer for Region IX, which includes Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Vance, an ECCC staff member since 1992, received the award at the Community College Business Officers Annual Conference held November 12 in San Diego, California. As a regional winner, he also qualified for the overall Out-

standing Chief Business Officer award, which carries a \$1000 scholarship to be presented to the college of the overall winner in his/her name. A representative of Community College Business Officer Awards Committee, located in Charlottesville, Virginia, notified Vance of his selection. In making the announcement, the spokesman said the honor "reflects the contributions that Vance has made to his institution and to the community." Business officers at the state's community and junior colleges nominated Vance for the award. A Newton native, Vance has served as ECCC's chief financial officer since 1992. He is a graduate of Newton County Academy, ECCC and the University of Southern Mississippi, where he received a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master of professional accountancy degree. He is married to the former Natalie Dunn of Natchez and they have two children, Jordan and Savannah.



Ellis Receives Work Experience

East Central Community College sophomore Bruce Ellis of Noxapater is among participants in the College's Work-Based Learning Program, which provides vocational-technical students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience while pursuing degrees in their chosen fields of study. Ellis, whose major is electrical technology, works about 35 hours a week for Jerry Coward (center), owner of Jerry Coward's Electrical and Plumbing Service in Philadelphia, in addition to attending classes at East Central. Ellis is shown working with wiring in a housing development of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians in Choctaw, MS. Also looking on is Jeff Hitt, ECCC Work-Based Learning Coordinator.



EC Program Provides Work Experience

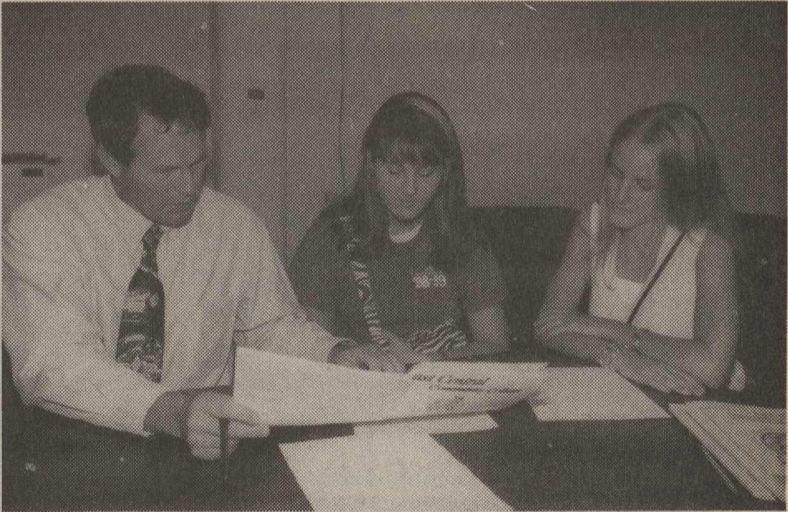
East Central Community College sophomore Barry Nowell of Philadelphia is among participants in the College's Work-Based Learning Program, which provides vocational-technical students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience while pursuing degrees in their chosen fields of study. Nowell, whose major is drafting and design technology, works about 30 hours a week for Randy Watkins (at right), owner of Randy Watkins Construction in Philadelphia, in addition to attending classes at East Central. Nowell is shown caulking a mantle in a house being built by Watkins Construction in rural Neshoba County. Also looking on is Jeff Hitt, ECCC Work-Based Learning Coordinator.

Counseling: A Career Option

By Shaletha Wade
Tom Tom Reporter

For students who have not yet decided on a major, counseling is a people-oriented path that some might consider. East Central Community College employs two academic counselors and one vocational-technical counselor. Michael Alexander and Lanette Hanna serve as counselors for the academic division while Sylvia Bush is the counselor for the vocational-technical students.

Alexander, who received his bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and his master's degree from the University of West Alabama, has been at the college since 1997 and said he became a counselor because he loved working with young people. "I just decided that I could make a greater impact on them personally as a counselor rather than as a classroom teacher or coach," Alexander said. Bush has been a counselor for five years. She received her bachelor's degree from Mississippi University for Women, the master's degree from Mississippi State University and has completed additional coursework at Mississippi College and Delta State University. She said she became a counselor because she enjoyed working with students. The role of a counselor varies from job to job but most college counselors assist students with their educational goals as well as help them with career and personal concerns. Alexander, who previously served as a high school counselor said the role of a counselor changes with each setting. High school is different because counselors are dealing with different



East Central academic counselor Michael Alexander, (left) helps students plan their class schedules during orientation.

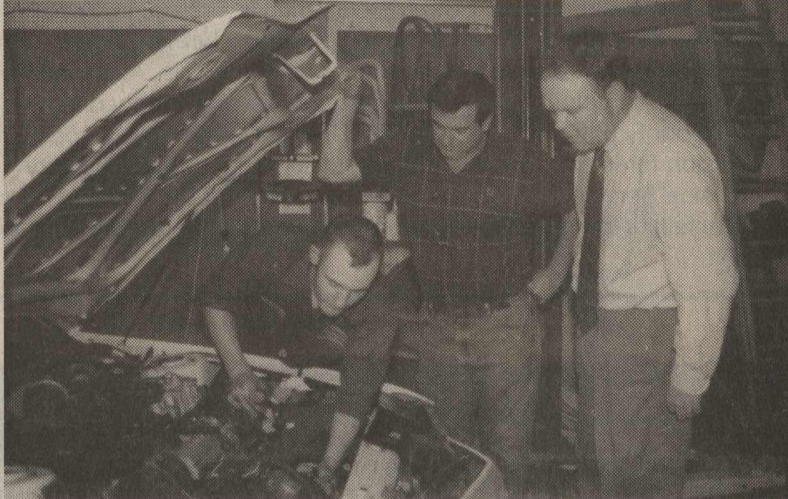
issues. "They do more personal counseling," Alexander said, "and often have to deal with student emotional or behavioral problems. They also go into classrooms and work on group activities that deal with such issues as drug use, teen pregnancy and self-esteem." Bush added, "Our students our usually focused on working toward a degree or certificate." The East Central counselors see their advisees on a regular basis, but most of their time once classes have begun involves helping students drop a class or checking their progress towards graduation. Bush said her advisees often drop by to let her know how things are going in their classes. The role of the academic counselor versus the vocational-technical counselor is much the same. The main difference according to Alexander is that most academic students are only half-way toward their goal when they leave East Central and vocational-technical students will usually complete their education at the College and begin a career. However, Bush says more and

more technical students are transferring to a university to complete a four-year degree. "The great thing about being a counselor," said Alexander, "is the feeling you get when you know you've helped someone with a problem. Everyone, at times, feels like nobody cares. A good counselor is one who listens to the student and helps them plot a course to overcome their problems." Bush said getting to know the students is the best part of her job. "The greatest advantage in being a counselor is that I get to know students many times on a different level than the instructor," said Bush. "The disadvantage is seeing someone really hurting and knowing in some cases you are really limited on what you can do to help." Becoming a counselor can be a very rewarding career. Most counselors are able to have a positive impact on students. However there are times when you have to deal with things like child abuse or drug abuse that make the job difficult. These are just a few things to consider when deciding on counseling as a career.



Receives Work Experience

East Central Community College sophomore Jeremy McNair (left) of Philadelphia is among participants in the College's Work-Based Learning Program, which provides vocational-technical students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience while pursuing degrees in their chosen fields of study. McNair, whose major is computer programming and network technology, works about 22 hours a week for the Neshoba County School District in addition to attending classes at the College. McNair is shown performing computer maintenance work under the watchful eyes of Steve Nelson (second from left), Neshoba County Superintendent of Education; Jason Mayo, technology coordinator for the county school district; and Jeff Hitt, ECCC Work-Based Learning Coordinator.



Receives Training Through EC Program

Joey Page (left) of Carthage, a sophomore at East Central Community College in Decatur, is among participants in the College's Work-Based Learning Program, which provides vocational-technical students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience while pursuing degrees in their chosen fields of study. Page, whose major is automotive mechanics technology, works 36 hours a week at Culpepper Sales and Service in Forest. He is shown checking engine controls under the watchful eyes of Harry Culpepper (center), company owner, and Jeff Hitt, who serves as the College's Work-Based Learning Coordinator.